

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CVI, ISSUE 12

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 29, 2001

## Blood drive turnout low



Members of the Hopkins community volunteered to donate blood in the Glass Pavilion on Wednesday.

BY EUNA LHEE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity and the Johns Hopkins University hosted a blood drive from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in conjunction with the American Red Cross Wednesday and Thursday in the Glass Pavilion of Levering Hall. Scheduled every couple of months or approximately every 56 days, both students and members of the community can donate by scheduling appointments or by walking-in.

"We collect about 225 units of blood each day, and each unit [or pint] of blood saves three to four people's lives," American Red Cross

Account Representative Katie Bentley said.

The American Red Cross funds and supplies all the necessary equipment and staff required for the drive and then sends the blood out to hospitals that need them in the greater Chesapeake and Potomac [Maryland, D.C. and Northern Virginia] region."

Donating blood is a multi-step process that takes around one to two hours. Potential donors first sign in at the registration desk where they are first screened for physical eligibility.

After reading over the information and filling out the registration form, they are interviewed and have a

HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER

mini-physical at the health history booths, where they interact one-on-one with an American staff member and ask any questions they might have.

Then, they are led to the donor room where they donate a pint of blood, a procedure that lasts seven to 10 minutes. Finally, the donors are led to a refreshment table in order to replenish their body with food, drink and rest.

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## Housing updates phones

BY YASMIN MADRASWALA  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Telecommunications Department and the Department of Housing and Dining Services have set up voice mail boxes for students with Johns Hopkins University telephone service, including all students living in residence halls and the Homewood Apartments. The voice mail service went into effect at no charge two weeks ago.

As a result of the events that occurred on Sept. 11, the University has tried to improve communications on and off campus. If any emergency occurs, the voice mail service can be utilized to broadcast any emergency announcements to students.

As Executive Director of Communications and Public Affairs Dennis O'Shea explained, the voice mail service essentially provides two services. First, the service can be used to inform students of any emergency information. Second, the service allows

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LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

The Sherwood Room was the site of a WGS talk on women's roles in war.

## WGS holds panel discussion on war

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Women, Gender, and Sexuality (WGS), and were organized by graduate students Tom Foster of the History Department and Jordan Stein of the English Department.

"This meeting was about women and violence in relation to war. We wanted to bring attention to the issues of women, gender and sexuality in the way this war is being talked about," said Stein.

The presentations were sponsored by the Program for the Study of

Students and community members came together in Levering Hall Wednesday to hear three JHU professors speak on women's issues in wartime situations. The discussion focused primarily on the United States' current conflict with Afghanistan.

Approximately 40 people attended the discussion, which took place Wednesday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. in the Sherwood Room at Levering Hall.

The majority of the attendees were graduate students of the University.

Professor Ruby Lal of the History department and affiliated with the WGS program gave introductory remarks and introduced the speakers.

"Women have become propaganda weapons," she said, noting the challenges Afghani women will face

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## More emergency phones fixed



EMILY NALVEN/NEWS-LETTER

Callers using the H-Lot phone could not hear Security until recently.

BY MIKE SPECTOR  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Johns Hopkins University Telecommunications repaired four emergency phones earlier this week and replaced another, according to Hopkins Security Lieutenant George Kibler. The phones that needed repairing were an elevator phone in Barton Hall and also the emergency phones located at Maryland Hall, Levering Hall and H-Lot. The Barn phone, located near the Krieger loading dock, at the foot of steps coming from the MSE Library, was replaced.

"All the phones are up and running," said Kibler.

The repairs come soon after Telecommunications responded to problems with both the S-Lot and H-Lot phones earlier this month.

The recently repaired phones suffered from a variety of problems, according to Telecommunications Operations Manager Bob Geldmacher.

The Barn phone had enough problems to cause Telecommunications to replace it with a new phone.

"Sometimes, rather than try to determine the problem with the phone, it's easier just to replace it," said Geldmacher.

The Maryland Hall phone was disconnecting when callers attempted to use it.

"We went into the phone and made sure the wires were secure, and that problem got fixed," said Geldmacher.

The siren in the Levering Hall phone failed to go off, prompting re-

pairs. Telecommunications changed a setting in a software program to repair the Barton Hall elevator phone.

While the H-Lot phone is up and running, it still suffers from a feedback problem — the same problem the phone had earlier this month. When callers use the phone, a sporadic feedback malfunction sometimes prevents the caller from hearing Security at the other end. Security can still hear everything the caller says and has practiced a policy of responding immediately to the scene, since the caller may not be able to hear their transmissions through the phone. Telecommunications added padding to the phone to try to reduce the feedback.

"The H-Lot phone has been in trouble a number of times," said Geldmacher. "We put padding in to reduce the feedback. The problem comes and goes. We didn't have any problems [Monday], but the problem still exists. I've had this problem with the phone myself."

The original source of the phone's problems was a severed underground cable. Geldmacher confirmed that wires were accidentally cut by construction workers over the summer during campus renovations.

"During the summer, a number of phones were taken out and replaced with new phones," said Geldmacher. "There were three or four times where cables were cut."

Geldmacher said that the H-Lot phone would be replaced as soon as possible.

"We'll replace [the H-Lot phone] as soon as the phone comes in from the manufacturer," said Geldmacher.

Geldmacher could not pinpoint a cause for all the phones malfunctioning, but said the thunderstorm last Sunday night could have been a factor.

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## Barakat chosen as Gift Chair

BY S. BRENDAN SHORT  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

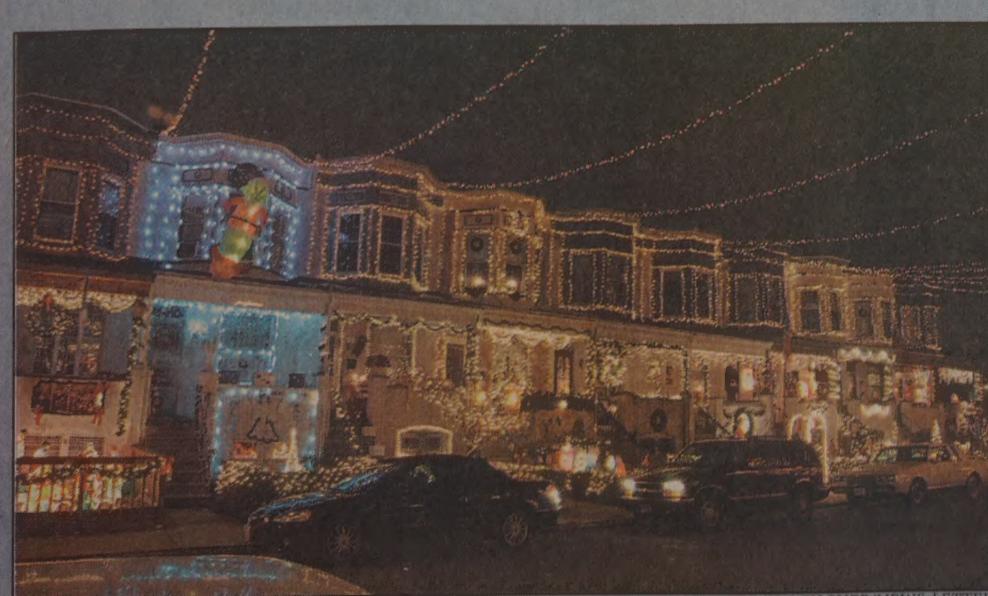
Senior Charbel Barakat was selected by the officers of the Class of 2002 as the class Gift Chair at a meeting yesterday. According to Barakat, the committee has "two major functions... the first is to select among the suggestions the most feasible but also the most interesting... the second function, which I think is the most important, is to fundraise."

The committee will solicit gift ideas from the class and by the beginning of next semester a referendum will be held, allowing members of the class to choose from among four gift options, Barakat said. "The actual power lies with the class because they will decide what gift is given," he added, stressing that the committee's purpose is mainly to coordinate the selection process.

The number of members on the committee varies, according to

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

## Hampden all lit up for the holidays



MIKE FISCHER/NEWS-LETTER  
Holiday lights are already on full display on the block of 34th St. west of Keswick Rd. Houses on both sides of the street are covered from top to bottom in the colorful decorations. This bright and festive display is a characteristically gaudy, yet fun, annual Hampden tradition. The flashy display is just a quick walk away.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### YOU CAN'T DENY IT

If you ended up at Johns Hopkins, you were probably a dork before you got here. If you were a dork back home, you probably played Magic: The Gathering. Page B1

### HE WAS GOOD IN EASY RIDER

Robert Redford was also good in *The Candidate* but not so much so in *The Horse Whisperer*. See how he fares in *Spy Games*. Brad Pitt sure does well. Page B8

### PARTY LIKE IT'S 2000

"Behind the Ink" takes you back to when the economy was flying high and Clark Hall was just a glimmer in some architect's eye. Page B9

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THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER  
PUBLISHED SINCE 1896

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## NEWS

## AROUND THE COUNTRY

## More "super-seniors" crowd colleges

BY MARIA SPROW

MICHIGAN DAILY (U. MICHIGAN)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. - What is traditionally a four-year commitment is quickly becoming a five-and-six-year standard. Many four-year colleges and universities are suffering from an influx of perennial students — students who, for one reason or another, don't graduate on time.

Nationally, only one-third of undergraduate students attending a four-year college graduate on time. Many universities are bracing for this low rate to cause problems in the near future.

Rural and suburban universities, expecting that as part of the fallout from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks students will be less likely to go to an urban school, worry about over-crowding and over-enrollment.

To alleviate the problem, some states — such as Pennsylvania and Texas — are offering universities with graduation rates above a certain percentage additional funding. And some schools are requiring that students seek permission before taking longer than four years to graduate.

The University of Michigan, with a 61 percent four-year graduation rate, has the highest rate of any public university in Michigan. Officials here said students staying longer than four years is not a problem.

"Chief among the reasons for the 60 percent four-year U of M graduation rate: the quality of the undergraduate students admitted to the university, the high motivation to succeed among our student body and the hugely pre-professional interest among some of our students and the quality of the undergraduate education experience," said Esrold Nurse, assistant dean of LSA

academic affairs.

Other schools in Michigan and the Big Ten aren't faring so well. Michigan State University has the second-highest four-year graduation rate in the state, at 31 percent.

At Eastern Michigan University, fewer than 10 percent of freshmen graduate within four years, and only 35 percent graduate within six years. Western Michigan University and Central Michigan University have graduation rates of 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively.

Across the Big Ten, the University of Minnesota and The Ohio State University are neck-and-neck for last place; the graduation rates of the schools are 17 and 19 percent, respectively. Purdue University (28 percent), University of Wisconsin (39 percent), Indiana University (40 percent), Pennsylvania State University (43 percent) and University of Illinois (52 percent) are somewhere in the middle.

With its \$25,000 tuition, private Northwestern University tops the other 10 public schools, graduating 83 percent of its freshman class within four years.

Lester Monts, the University of Michigan's senior vice provost of academic affairs, said there are many driving forces helping students graduate early — as well as many others that lead them to stick around.

"I think the force is students' parents, who are paying these tuition bills and supporting their kids through college," Monts said.

"That's certainly the case with me. I want my own to get out as soon as they can."

Nationally, universities and colleges with higher tuition rates also have higher graduation rates. About two-thirds of students at private institutions graduate within four years.

The 15 highest graduation rates belong to private institutions with annual tuition of at least \$23,000. The lone exception in Michigan is Cleary College, a private school in Howell with less than 900 students that boasts a 94 percent graduation rate.

A commuter college where 80 percent of the students are at least 25 years old, Cleary costs little more than \$10,000 a year to attend.

In some cases, high tuition rates can also prolong an undergraduate career.

"Economic factors can play a role in the length of the undergraduate career," said Bob Owen, the University of Michigan's assistant dean of academic affairs.

"Some students carry less than a full load each semester because they need to work part-time to cover their expenses."

Michigan also gives full-time students a flat tuition rate, meaning students who take 18 credits pay the same amount of money as those taking 12 credits.

The University of Texas at Austin is planning to offer students a flat tuition rate in fall 2002 in an attempt to boost its graduation rate of 32 percent. Many students come to the University of Michigan with Advanced Placement credits from high school. Newly created academic minors, an alternative to double-majoring, can

also shorten the length of time needed to graduate.

"When I was working on the development of academic minors in LSA, I learned that many students took double majors because they were concerned about their job prospects in some fields," Owen said.

"I am hopeful that the existence of minors will reduce that effect."

Academic minors require significantly fewer credits than majors. Students who do double major are almost forced to study for an extra year.

Changing majors in the middle of an undergraduate career — not unusual at any university — also means spending more time in Ann Arbor. In addition, extra-curricular activities, study-abroad programs and undergraduate research opportunities can also deter students from graduating early.

"Students may become heavily involved in these activities to the point where it prolongs their undergraduate careers," Owen said.

"However, these same experiences may also enhance their chances of getting good jobs or getting into good graduate programs."

Monts said greater freedom and more choices might cause some students problems, but added that the University is not concerned about an influx of fifth-year seniors.

## USAF cadets lack faith in honor code

BY ANSLEE WILLETT

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGIAN (COLORADO STATE U.)

more comfortable as they go through the system and there's not as much doubt about what's going on."

He said changes are expected by March and some have already been made, such as hiring an academy graduate as a full-time honor education officer.

The study says declining confidence in the code is linked to how long it takes a case to go through the system.

"In 1955, the vast majority of cases were dealt with and resolved within days, if not hours, of their occurrence," the study says.

"However, given the current system's weighty legal, evidential and administrative requirements... honor cases now require an average of 100 days to complete all phases of the honor process, 40 days greater than the current academy goal of 60 days."

Hyatt said officials want to shorten what they refer to as "Byzantine processes."

Officials also are looking into the recommendation of removing an officer as a voting member from the Wing Honor Board, which cadets face if they don't admit guilt. The board is made up of seven cadets and one officer, and six out of eight votes are needed to find a cadet in violation.

The study suggests replacing the officer with a cadet to "increase the cadet sense of ownership of the honor system" by placing sole responsibility to cadets.

Each year, the academy deals with an average of 130 honor code cases. About 15 percent of those cadets are dismissed, Hyatt said.

## Maryland Sept. 11 fund raises \$30,000

BY RAYMUND LEE FLANDEZ

THE DIAMONDBACK (U. MARYLAND)

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE PARK, Md. - More than two months of hard work carrying buckets of change, talking with potential donors and juggling schoolwork has come to its pinnacle. Dave Amdur and Jodie Campbell are about to start giving away the \$30,000 they've raised through the September 11th Scholarship Fund.

Four campus students will be awarded partial tuition, room and board and book expenses for the spring 2002 semester through the fund, said Campbell, a senior communication major at University of Maryland.

The four students are sophomores and juniors; one lives in state, the rest out of state. For privacy reasons, the names have been withheld, Campbell said.

The amount of funding the students will receive next fall is still being finalized, Campbell said, but she said she hopes the funding will be available for the students until they graduate.

"Right now, our first priority is following them through graduation, depending on how much money we raise," Campbell said. "We want to make sure we follow students here all the way through graduation."

Another concern she had was whether the prison would respect Al-Najjar's observation of Ramadan, which started on Nov. 16 and involves 30 days of fasting, in which he can only eat after the sun goes down.

Dan Nelson, public information officer for the U.S. Department of Justice, said he could not comment on the details of the case.

He was first ordered deported in 1997 after his student visa expired. He was jailed for three years and seven months on secret evidence that the government said linked him to terrorism and made him a national security threat. He was released in December 2000 after Judge Joan Lenard ruled that it is unconstitutional to jail someone based on secret evidence. Al-Najjar was not given due process and, therefore, could not adequately defend himself.

That ruling is being appealed in a Miami district court by the federal

government, but a three-judge panel has not yet decided whether to uphold Lenard's decision.

Al-Arian said no one has heard from Al-Najjar since his arrest and she worries for his safety. "We were hoping he would call like last time,"

Al-Arian said. "I just think that this time he is not allowed. But we are all very anxious to hear his voice."

She said she was concerned because she doesn't know much about the Federal Correctional Institution at Coleman, the jail where he is being detained 70 miles north of Tampa. She said the last time he was in jail, he was held in a facility meant for temporary incarceration but spent nearly four years there.

"We don't even know where he is," Al-Arian said. "All they told us was that he was at Coleman near Gainesville. That's all the knowledge we have now."

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# Peabody institutes new conservatory

BY YASMIN MADRASWALA  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Last Monday, the National University of Singapore (NUS) signed a six-year agreement to collaborate with the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) to establish the Singapore Conservatory of Music (SCM) at NUS. NUS Deputy President and Provost Professor Chong Chi Tat, Vice-Provost of JHU Dr. Paula Burger and Director of the Peabody Institute Dr. Robert Sirota signed the agreement at the University Cultural Centre in NUS. The collaboration is the first of its kind between a well-known U.S. music conservatory and a leading university in the Asian-Pacific region.

The SCM will offer students a four-year Honors Baccalaureate of Music similar to Peabody's Bachelor of Music undergraduate degree program. The program will include music literacy, composition and ensembles, individual performance and special programs such as recording arts and teacher education. The music conservatory will serve the needs of students who want to be composers, performers, teachers, critics and other careers in the musical field.

Peabody will assist the SCM in designing and developing its curriculum, constructing the conservatory and recruiting faculty. Peabody will also help coordinate a program to recruit gifted students from around the world and particularly throughout Southeast Asia from countries such as Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, China and the Philippines. The first enroll-



**The Peabody Institute (above) signed an agreement with The National University of Singapore that will establish a Singapore Conservatory of Music. Peabody will provide professors and help design the curriculum.**

ment of students, which will occur in about two to three years, will include about 30 students and grow to about 150-200 students in a couple of years, adding 40-50 students per year.

Peabody will also send composers, performing artists and other faculty members to the SCM on a short-term basis for master classes and residencies. Soloists and chamber ensembles will also be made available for performances at the SCM. Collaborations between the SCM and Peabody will later extend to student exchange programs, graduate programs and distance learning exchanges. Peabody will eventually cre-

ate an office on its campus in Baltimore, Md. to coordinate involvement with the SCM.

The SCM will contribute to the growth of musical, cultural and artistic developments in Singapore. It will serve as a center for musical education not only for Singapore but for the entire Southeast Asian region. A governing board will be created to advise, operate and set policies for the SCM as an institution of international standing. The governing board will also maintain the involvement and support of stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education (MOE), the Ministry of Information, Com-

munications and the Arts (MITA), the National Arts Council (NAC), and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO).

Dr. Steven Baxter, who has served as the Dean of the Peabody Conservatory of Music for the past seven years will be the Director-Designate of the SCM beginning in January 2002. Baxter was unavailable to comment.

The SCM is not the first collaboration between JHU and NUS. In 1998, Johns Hopkins Medicine and the National University of Singapore created Johns Hopkins Singapore and the Johns Hopkins-NUH International Medical Centre at the National University of Singapore.

Assistant Editor of the *Peabody News* Kirsten Lavin said, "The Peabody Institute is proud and delighted to enter into this new collaboration with the National University of Singapore to create a world-class music conservatory. This is a rare and exciting opportunity to enhance musical culture in Singapore and throughout the Southeast Asia region. Peabody already has strong ties to the Far East — approximately one third of Peabody's student population is from Asia — and we are enthusiastic about extending and strengthening those ties."

# JHU gives students free voice mail setup

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students, families, and friends to have better communication, in case of an emergency. For example, families can call their students and leave a message in their voice mail boxes. Students can also re-record their outgoing message for callers to hear. In this way, families and students can communicate with each other even if students are not in their rooms or if they are using the phone line.

Director of Telecommunications Services Beth Rodier said, "For safety reasons, the voice mail service gives students the means to get information quickly, and provides a better way for parents to communicate with the students."

Until now, the University has used several other methods to communicate with students through E-mail, a telephone hot line normally used for information regarding inclement weather and the University's Web site.

Director of Housing and Conference Services Tracey Angel said, "I think people were looking at their

plans differently because of recent events and people are factoring different information into what they are doing. Not everyone has Internet access, so I think phone systems is the direction that we have headed towards."

The Telecommunications Department, which is responsible for all telephone operations, had to build about 800 voice mail boxes, through a software program because only 259 voice mail boxes had already been set up. Students can use the voice mail box to hold five messages for up to five days.

Angel said, "Should there be an emergency, the University has a way to contact all students. If there are any major problems, it would be easy for students to receive any critical information."

O'Shea said, "The idea that we learned on Sept. 11 was that communication is the key for students and families in times of emergencies. The Telecommunications Department has tried to make this communication as easy as possible."

## Telecommunications repairs several phones

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"We left with a clean slate before Thanksgiving break," Geldmacher said. "We got a note from Security Monday morning notifying us that all these phones were having problems."

Security's Nov. 19 Daily Incident Report also indicated that the Mattin Center emergency phone did not call Security. Telecommunications checked the phone on Monday and found no problems.

Telecommunications gets the phones from Communication Equipment and Engineering Inc. (CEECO). The company is located in Plantation, Fla. and provides phones similar to the University's emergency phones all across the country.

When asked if Telecommunications was considering getting phones

from another manufacturer, Geldmacher said, "We're always looking for alternatives for very good products. CEECO provides phones like these [emergency phones] all over the country and we've purchased a number of their products. You have to deal with elements like rain and lightning strikes. We've taken steps to protect them."

Indeed, the phones have rechargeable batteries that can give power for up to two days should a power failure occur.

Geldmacher said that Telecommunications will continue to respond quickly to phones that need repairs.

"Fixing the phones is our number one priority right now," said Geldmacher. "Because it affects so many people, it's at the top of our list."

## Profs. discuss women's role in war

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1  
in facing their new found freedom without Taliban restrictions. "A few women have been nominated to represent Afghanistan in the meeting at Bonn [to decide how to establish a new government in Afghanistan], but we have yet to see if this is just a superficial gesture."

She asked the audience to view previous Taliban restrictions as unrepresentative of all Muslim countries and to "think a little further about the place of women in Muslim society." Muslim countries like Bangladesh, India and Indonesia have all had female prime ministers.

She was followed first by Professor Paul Kramer of the History department, who spoke about the changing nature of war in relation to gender.

"War is the health of patriarchy," he said, but added that women are becoming ever more present in the military industry, noting Condoleezza Rice as the national security advisor and increased female fighters. "I turned on the television the other day and there on the news was the first female pilot to ever lead a bombing mission. She said 'I am the Taliban's worst nightmare.'"

Professor Kramer also noted three recent accomplishments of the women's movement: the blocking of pipeline construction through Afghanistan that would have given the Taliban enormous profit, the high proportion of women (about 27 per-

cent) in the new government of East Timor, and the anniversary of a UN resolution to include women in peace negotiations and nation rebuilding.

The next speaker was Professor Neil Hertz of the Humanities Center.

this is their people, religion and culture.

Last to present was Professor Veena Das of the Anthropology department.

"Modern wars last for very long periods, from 10 to 30 years in countries like Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, and Algeria. In these situations what is socially 'normal' becomes very different from what we might believe," she said.

She went on to explain that in these situations, the notion of an unyielding maternal devotion to children can lapse.

"When women have many children in poverty or in war, and they know some of them will die, they disinvest affection for some of them. But this is not to say they don't love their children, just that it is very hard in those situations," she said.

"There is a notion that you are either traditional and backward or modern and inauthentic. We must dispel these notions and allow space for traditions to adapt."

WGS members discussed the effects of the war on terror on Afghan women and children.

He began by quoting from a novel published in 1982 by Don DeLillo, entitled *The Names* which dealt with the way foreign nations see America.

"In America it takes a crisis for people to see other people," he read. In the book, DeLillo's characters discuss how during a foreign crisis there is an "instant" educating of the populace in the US: this is the country, and

and they know some of them will die, they disinvest affection for some of them. But this is not to say they don't love their children, just that it is very hard in those situations," she said.

"There is a notion that you are either traditional and backward or modern and inauthentic. We must dispel these notions and allow space for traditions to adapt."

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## NEWSBRIEFS

**Bacteria targets cancer in mice**

Scientists from the Johns Hopkins University have created bacteria that selectively target large advanced tumors in mice. Results of their experiments are reported in the November 27, 2001 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The scientists found a way to exploit a special germ's taste for oxygen-starved environments and direct them to target pockets of dead and dying cells within large tumors. These advanced tumors generally have areas of poor blood circulation and thus little oxygen. The lack of oxygen renders them relatively resistant to conventional chemotherapy and radiation but open to bacteria that can grow without oxygen.

"The idea is to selectively attack these tumors from inside with the bacteria and from the outside with chemotherapy," says Bert Vogelstein, M.D., Clayton Professor of Oncology and Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

The scientists systematically screened numerous bacterial species to find one that would thrive in an oxygen-poor environment and, at the same time, destroy surrounding tumor cells. They settled on one spore-forming bacterial species, called *Clostridium novyi* (C. novyi). C. novyi is normally found in soil and dust and contains a toxin that can cause lethal side effects in animals. They genetically modified the bacteria to remove the toxin gene to make them harmless to normal animals. Then, they injected spores of these bacteria and conventional chemotherapeutic agents into mice with large tumors composed of transplanted human colon cancer cells.

The results achieved with this strategy, called COBALT for combination bacteriolytic therapy were dramatic.

More than half of the tumors treated, including very large tumors, were completely destroyed within 24 hours. The tumors decomposed and turned into blackened scars, while the surrounding healthy tissues remained intact. The tumor scars then gradually disappeared over the next two weeks, leaving healthy tissue behind.

Clinical trials are not planned at this time as it will take several years to determine which chemotherapy agents make the best combinations and to develop strategies to avoid the toxicity associated with rapid destruction of large tumor masses. "We hope that this research will add a new dimension to cancer treatment, but realize that the way tumors respond to treatment in mice can be different than in humans," says Kenneth Kinzler, Ph.D., professor of oncology.

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**Mental state found to affect heart disease**

Two recent studies offer new evidence that when it comes to fighting heart disease, a patient's state of mind can play an important role.

Addressing a recent American Heart Association conference in Anaheim, Calif., researchers said a positive attitude was not only associated with better outcomes for heart attack patients, but might even stave off heart disease.

In one study, Dr. Diane M. Becker of Johns Hopkins University and her colleagues took a look at 586 people, ages 30 to 59, who displayed no signs of heart disease but whose siblings had heart problems at an early age. In addition to physical examinations, the participants were given standardized personality assessments. Then their cases were followed over seven and a half years. In that time, 70 of the volunteers experienced what the researchers called a heart "event" sudden death, heart attack or chest pain that required surgery.

But those participants whose personality assessments showed they had positive outlooks were half as likely to experience heart problems as those people found to have negative outlooks.

In the second study, Dr. David E. Bush, also of Johns Hopkins, and his colleagues reported that some heart attack patients were so convinced that they would never get better that they refused to take steps that would have aided their recoveries. The study looked at 160 men and women who were evaluated for depression after suffering heart attacks. Four months later, researchers followed up to see if the patients had followed their doctors' recommendations to alter their lifestyles to improve their health.

About a fifth of the patients were found to be depressed, the researchers said. And among them, the worse they considered their health to be, the less likely they were to try do anything about it. The same group was found to suffer more from high blood pressure and diabetes.

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**Ethiopia to host HIV/AIDS resource center**

A new resource center with accurate and up-to-date information on HIV/AIDS will be established by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (JHU/CCP) in Ethiopia, a country that has one of the world's highest HIV prevalence rates. The new center is made possible through a \$300,000 cooperative agreement between JHU/CCP and the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention (CDC), according to Kim Martin, Chief of Media Relations and Advocacy with JHU/CCP.

The CDC is responsible for HIV/AIDS prevention in the United States and also assists other countries in developing, implementing and evaluating HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment programs. The CDC directs the National Prevention Information Network (NPIN), a national clearinghouse for HIV/AIDS information.

The Ethiopia AIDS Resource Center to be centrally located in the capital city of Addis Ababa will provide journalists, healthcare workers, government officials and HIV/AIDS organizations with the latest information and materials on HIV/AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis. The center plans to include print and web-based resources, and support a local AIDS telephone hotline that provides HIV/AIDS information and counseling services.

"Ethiopia has been devastated by the HIV/AIDS epidemic and there's a crying need for accurate and accessible information," said Tadesse Wuhib, MD, MPH, Director for CDC-Ethiopia. "Right now, there's a severely limited supply of quality materials and current knowledge available for those trying to stop this disease."

According to the CDC, Ethiopia has just one percent of the world's population, but nine percent of the worldwide cases of HIV/AIDS. The disease has orphaned more than 700,000 Ethiopian children and more than a million people have died due to the disease.

In addition to housing a clearinghouse of already available HIV/AIDS prevention materials, the new resource center will develop new high-quality print and audiovisual materials specifically for Ethiopia. The center will also provide training and source material for Ethiopian journalists to enhance their reporting on the epidemic.

"Our goal is for this center to serve as a hub for everyone working in Ethiopia to fight HIV/AIDS," said Tadesse. "Through this center, we hope to network, coordinate and collaborate with each other to improve and expand our various activities."

For example, the decision on where to house the new resource center will be made after consulting with government officials and other HIV/AIDS organizations.

JHU/CCP is a pioneer in the field of strategic, research-based communication for behavior change and health promotion that has helped transform the theory and practice of public health communications. With representatives in more than 30 countries, JHU/CCP has been a leader in the development of projects based on systematic needs assessments and clear strategies for positioning and presenting the benefits of health interventions to appropriate audiences.

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**Local crime report for Nov. 12 - 19****November 12**

• 1:00 a.m.— Suspect attempted to steal victim's 1994 Chevy truck by forcing the passenger window and popping the ignition, but was unsuccessful on 3100 Blk. of Keswick Rd.

• 1:40 a.m.— Two suspects took complainant's 1995 jeep which was left unattended with the keys in the ignition on 500 Blk. of E. 33rd St.

• 10:10 a.m.— Suspect attempted entry to complainant's home by prying door on 2900 Blk. of Keswick Rd.

• 1:25 p.m.— Suspect demanded money from clerk and fled with property on 3300 Blk. of Greenmount Ave.

• 2:30 p.m.— Suspect forced entry and removed complainant's property on 3500 Blk. of Chestnut Ave.

• 5:15 p.m.— Gold chain worth \$450 and tool box worth \$30 taken from auto on 600 Blk. of Parkwyrth Ave.

• 4:30 p.m.— Suspect took complainant's 1988 Honda on 3400 Blk. of N. Charles St.

• 8:30 p.m.— Suspect gained entry to vehicle and removed property on 500 Blk. of Exeter Hall Ave.

**November 13**

• 12:05 a.m.— Suspect removed property from property without paying on 900 Blk. of W. 36th St.

• 10:40 a.m.— Suspect took a B&D 14.4 volt drill that was left unattended on 2800 Blk. of Greenmount Ave.

• 2:00 p.m.— Suspect removed complainant's wallet from her handbag on 200 Blk. of E. University Pkwy.

• 8:00 p.m.— Suspect broke into the complainant's vehicle and stole property on unit Blk. of E. 39th St.

• 8:50 p.m.— Three suspects attempted to rob victim at gun point on 2800 Blk. of Guilford Ave.

• 9:51 p.m.— Suspect arrested for

cutting victim with a knife on 400 Blk. of Ilchester Ave.

• 10:00 p.m.— Suspect took complainant's 1994 Dodge from 4300 Blk. of Roland Ave.

**November 14**

• 12:21 p.m.— Suspect removed complainant's purse from her office on 200 Blk. of E. University Pkwy.

• 4:00 p.m.— Suspect attempted to take complainant's 1997 jeep on 4300 Blk. of Roland Ave.

• 8:00 p.m.— Suspect forced entry to a garage and removed a Yamaha dirt bike on 3700 Blk. of Roland Ave.

**November 15**

• 2:00 a.m.— Suspect forced entry into complainant's business and removed property on 1000 Blk. of W. 36th St.

• 8:40 a.m.— Suspect removed tools from auto repair shop on 2500 Blk. of N. Howard St.

• 11:00 a.m.— Suspect took complainant's 1996 Saturn on 3400 Blk. of St. Paul St.

• 2:45 p.m.— Suspect armed with a gun robbed complainant of currency and fled scene in a green Chevy Metro on 600 Blk. of E. 33rd St.

• 4:10 p.m.— Victim left carry bag with Palm Pilot and laptop on desk in unsecured area, which were taken by suspect on 3900 Blk. of Keswick Rd.

• 5:10 p.m.— Suspect entered store, took toy locomotive from display and fled to unknown destination on 3600 Blk. of Falls Rd.

**November 16**

• 12:30 a.m.— Suspect took complainant's stereo on 300 Blk. of W. 29th St.

• 4:10 p.m.— Victim left carry bag with Palm Pilot and laptop on desk in unsecured area, which were taken by suspect on 3900 Blk. of Keswick Rd.

• 5:10 p.m.— Suspect entered store, took toy locomotive from display and fled to unknown destination on 3600 Blk. of Falls Rd.

**November 17**

• 12:07 a.m.— Ex-boyfriend of victim was arrested after removing a jacket and shoes from victim's dwelling on 2600 Blk. of Miles Ave.

• 10:30 a.m.— Suspect arrested for shoplifting on 3100 Blk. of Miles Ave.

• 1:30 p.m.— Suspect entered victim's 2002 Camry and fled to unknown destination on 1000 Blk. of W. 36th St.

• 12:07 a.m.— Ex-boyfriend of victim was arrested after removing a jacket and shoes from victim's dwelling on 2600 Blk. of Miles Ave.

• 10:30 a.m.— Suspect arrested for shoplifting on 3100 Blk. of Miles Ave.

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# Blood drive held in Glass Pavilion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"Almost anyone can donate, so it should be everyone's duty," freshman blood donor Mark Belinskys said. "There's such a huge blood shortage, and there shouldn't be, so I try to donate as much as I can. You can see that especially after Sept. 11 because so many people needed blood, and it wasn't there."

Once the blood is collected and processed, it is stored inside tanks filled with ice and is ready to be transported to a lab.

"Since blood lasts about only 42 days, blood must reach a lab within eight hours," American Cross staff member Sam Thomas said. "We had three to four bloodmobiles every four hours to transport the blood [to the lab]."

Once taken to the lab, the blood is tested and broken down to its three major components- plasma, platelets and red blood cells. To ensure the blood is healthy and to keep blood deferral levels to a minimum, health care professionals working at the blood drives asked for certain requirements at the registration desks.

"We require that the donors are at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, have had no tattoos in the last year and have not taken any antibiotics in the last 48 hours," Bentley said. "Most importantly, they have to be in general good health."

In addition to these basic requirements, the Red Cross tightened restrictions on European travel, which decreased the amount of potential donors, according to Communications Program Coordinator Caterina Provost-Smith. The restrictions had been suggested by the Food and Drug Administration in order to prevent "mad cow" disease (Creutzfeldt-Jakob) from entering the United States. According to the new requirement, anyone who had spent a cumulative total of three months in the United Kingdom or six months in combination of any European country since 1980, is momentarily ineligible to donate.

"The travel requirement is the reason why donor numbers are down and it also disqualifies me since I lived in Germany," sophomore Alpha Phi Omega brother Hyung Do Kim said. "The only thing I can do to help is to give out cookies to the donors."

Other students expressed differ-



HOLLY MARTIN/NEWS-LETTER  
Tables were set up in the Glass Pavilion for registration for the blood drive, sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega.

However, the travel restrictions may not be the only reason for the decrease in the number of donors.

"The screening process is much faster now, but was very slow in September's blood drive and caused some people to wait two to three hours in order to donate," Provost-Smith said. "Also, although there were a many number of appointments, the number of walk-in donations has decreased. We'll try adding new forms of recruitment, such as promoting the drive within other student groups to try to reach more potential donors since we need to make up for the European travel restrictions.

The Office of Faculty, Staff and Retiree Programs had publicized the event on campus for the past two months by means of fliers, posters, letters and e-mails. In response to the publicity, new students and members of the community were impacted and came to donate.

"I went to MegaBYTES, and there was a table set up by the Red Cross," freshman donor Linda Trinh said. "I wanted to donate blood last time, but couldn't, so I came in today [for the] first time. It didn't hurt as much as I thought."

Other students expressed differ-

ent reasons for donating blood.

"I gave blood today because I can and in the future, I won't be able to. As a gay man, there are restrictions on who can give blood, so while I have the chance, I'll do my part," senior donor Andrew Albin said. "I had no concept of how much time it would take because I expected it to be in and out."

Nevertheless, the members of Alpha Phi Omega, who have sponsored the event for the past two years, expressed satisfaction with the blood drive and were happy with the stu-

dent turnout despite the restrictions.

"It's one of my favorite events because it's related to saving lives," Kim commented. "Since I was on the Red Cross in Korea, this is a good way to continue what I was doing."

Junior Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity member Leon Chao agreed.

"I've donated blood before, and I know how nervous people can be, so I try to help them relax and be less stressed," Chao said. "I enjoy the experience immensely because instead of being on the receiving end, I'm on the giving end."

# '02 gift chair named

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Barakat, based on how many applicants express an interest in participating. Applicants are still being accepted.

Fundraising, which will occupy much of second semester, will be organized in concert with the office of Annual Giving, which Barakat says will allow the committee to use its phone banks and other resources: "As eager as I am to help, my expertise is limited, or rather, their's is much more significant."

Despite this assistance, Barakat hopes to "try this year to emphasize the role of seniors in recruiting among their peers." Details of the fundraising process will be clarified further once

the gift is decided on. Ideas so far include a student/faculty talent show, a suggestion made by Wendy Brody, wife of University President William Brody.

The Senior Class Gift has not always been without controversy. Two years ago, the Class of 2000 broke with the tradition of donating a physical improvement to the school, instead choosing to endow a "Millennium Cruz," a social event to be held every year.

The choice sparked a petition to change it, and the gift was eventually submitted to a vote, in which the class chose instead to endow a "Millennium Week" of events to be held every year.

# Marshall Scholarship given to JHU senior

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

rebuilding of certain areas. Foster is looking at the scholarship as an opportunity to test some of his beliefs on the subject in another environment, in particular "beliefs specific to the African-American [community] versus" the experiences of black people in another country.

When he is finished with his coursework at the University of Kent, he will leave with a Master's degree in urban regeneration. This involves completing three thesis papers over the course of his two years there. Before he begins writing anything, however, he needs to "get the course work under [his] belt and use that for [his] own research."

Forty Marshall Scholarships are awarded each year to United States citizens holding a degree from an accredited four-year college or university. A student must have a minimum 3.7 GPA to qualify. The program was established in 1953 by an Act of Parliament and is funded by the British government. They were created as an expression of gratitude to the American people by the British for the Marshall Plan. The scholarships are tenable at any British University and cover two years of study in any discipline.

In addition to covering tuition fees, the scholarships include a first-year arrival allowance, a monthly personal allowance, a yearly book grant, a grant to cover the cost of preparing the students' theses and fare to and from the United States. As part of the application, candidates are required to specify which university they would like to study at and outline their proposed focus of study in detail.

A third year may be granted on a case-by-case basis if a student can sufficiently justify the need for the additional time to complete their theses. Marshall scholars are encouraged to pursue a Master's degree rather than a Ph.D. since a Ph.D. in Britain requires a minimum of three years of research.

Foster is also still a candidate for a Rhodes Scholarship. He is one of 12 semifinalists from the Washington, D.C. region to be granted an interview. After the interviews next Wednesday, that number will be reduced to three. If he is selected as a Rhodes scholar, he will be forced to decide between the two. Foster is not yet thinking about that decision, however.

"I feel incredibly lucky [to have been given a Marshall Scholarship]," said Foster. "If he is also awarded a Rhodes Scholarship, 'I'll think about it then,'" he said.

Foster spent a semester abroad last year at the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, where he studied Latin, ancient Roman history/ archaeology and art history. He has been involved with Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity (SEED), the Black Students Union (BSU) and the Mentoring Assistance Peer Program (MAP).

Foster is familiar with London, having spent 10 weeks there this summer as an intern with Merrill Lynch. "It's a great place. I have lots of friends there," he said.

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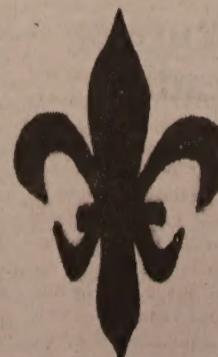
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# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## EDITORIAL

# A promising start for this year's Senior Class Gift

Yet another committee chair has been chosen, and this time we approve. After all, it's our very own *News-Letter* colleague Charbel Barakat who will be chairing the Senior Class Gift Committee.

While we're happy that he was chosen, we're even happier about the way that the gift will be chosen this year. The four most feasible options will be assembled by the committee from suggestions made by members of the class, and one of those options will be chosen in a referendum to be held by the beginning of next semester. This bears an eerie resemblance to the process that took place two years ago, when the fabled "Millennium Cruz" controversy erupted, but it's more than a little refreshing to know that this year, the chairs won't be forced into doing it that way by an angry, petition-signing student body.

What we commend most is the spirit with which this year's committee chair intends to select a senior class gift. In stark contrast to past years, this year's committee seems to be approaching their task as a collective effort of the entire senior class. If it works, this collective effort will be one that makes collective action in Washington, D.C. seem unorganized. By asking the se-

nior class to take an active role in selecting the gift, the Senior Class Gift Committee is truly turning the gift into one that incorporates the efforts and ideas of those seniors who are interested in doing so.

This brings us to another point. Seniors, we ask that you take an active role by suggesting feasible gift ideas. While it's true that the committee could just choose a couple of nice benches on our behalf, you are now being given the chance to make a difference. In many ways, this is much like a presidential election. Citizens think their single votes don't count, but if you think back to last year's election then you'll realize that your one vote does matter. Just ask Al Gore. Of course, in this case it isn't a vote; rather, it's your chance to influence the selection of the gift by which our class will be remembered for decades to come. So let's all take a moment to consider what we can do to leave our mark on this campus. Zack Pack's legacy is Taco Bell. Let's make the Class of 2002's legacy one that is even more memorable.

So, seniors, get off your lazy butts and contact our Senior Class Gift Committee members. Let them know how you want to be remembered.

# Will airport security be effective?

All of us who flew home this past week for Thanksgiving break saw the increased security measures that airports have instituted. We saw the National Guard walking around with large automatic weaponry. We had our "government-issued picture ID's" examined at check-in, before we entered the gate area and when we got on the plane itself. Some of us may even have been searched with a hand-held metal detector after going through the security checkpoint. We also saw random people being drawn from the seating area in front of the gates to have their luggage opened and searched. Will these precautions be enough to prevent future security breaches? Doubtful.

I saw the security personnel who were checking my ID. They barely glanced at it. In the couple seconds they were holding both my ticket and ID, I don't think they could have possibly confirmed that the name on the two was the same and that the face on the ID was the same as mine. Besides

couldn't I have just gotten a fake ID if I really wasn't the person I was claiming to be? Would they really have noticed? They're method of singling out

**JOEL MEYER**  
INTENTIONALLY  
CONTROVERSIAL

suspicious travelers who have bought their tickets with cash or only bought a one-way ticket does not seem to be entirely effective either. Why can't a terrorist simply pay with a credit card (we all get plenty of applications after all) and buy a round trip ticket.

Perhaps my favorite example of an attempt at security was not official, but an "airplane militia" comprised of frequent flyers ready to interfere with any terrorist action on a plane. Yes, for all you doubters, I did seriously read this in a newspaper.

Let's imagine this scenario: The

terrorists get out of their seats and start heading for the cockpit, as one of the men walks down the aisle he knocks a drink onto a passenger's lap. But this isn't any passenger — he is a member of the airplane militia. He looks up and remembers that he saw that man's face on the FBI's most wanted list. "He must have used a fake ID to get through airport security," he thinks, "I knew they would need the airplane militia." With that thought he prepares for action. He nudges his fellow militia members as the West Tulsa 51st Airborne Division prepares for combat. They tackle the would-be-terrorists and the day is saved: another triumph for the airplane militia.

Now let's be honest. That situation, or a less dramatized version of that situation, could never happen. How would they stop these terrorists? With the weapons that they're not allowed to carry on board? I don't think so. And if they don't have weapons, how would they stop terrorists who do?

When it comes down to it, airport security measures are more designed for your everyday traveler than for the criminals who wish to commit violent acts on an airplane. While the measures may not fully eliminate the possibilities for security breaches, they will make travelers like myself more willing to fly again. At the airport I found myself thinking, "Ha, a terrorist couldn't get through the security point I just passed." When I was found to be acceptable to the bored security guard who searched me with the hand-held metal detector, I felt like I was one of the chosen elite allowed to enter the gate area. When the National Guard walked past me without looking at me suspiciously, it confirmed my knowledge that I belonged and that any potential terrorists would certainly not make it past these steadfast security measures.

Alas, the airline business does need a boost and if these security measures will help provide that boost, then I'm all for it.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Moravia Park article accurate, but misleading

To the Editor:

Matt O'Brien's article on the Moravia Park Shelving Facility closing ("Moravia facility closing," Nov. 15, 2001) accurately described the temporary closing of that facility, but the headlines and picture caption that accompanied the story incorrectly assert that the Eisenhower Library's Interlibrary Services department has

closed.

Far from being closed, the Interlibrary Services and Document Delivery department has temporarily expanded to accommodate requests for Moravia Park materials. These requests are being filled by obtaining materials from other libraries, and Moravia Park staff have relocated to the Eisenhower Library to help process these requests.

Library users should continue to make their requests for Moravia materials via the Moravia Park Web request or on request forms available in the library.

Sincerely,  
Nancy K. Roderer

# University rankings superficial

Grade inflation, pass/fail courses and professors that care about their students all have a large influence on how a school will rank

It must be a nice feeling to have everyone that you met in the first 17 years of your life call to congratulate you on being accepted to one of the nation's leading schools. Surely everyone one of you out there, as matriculated undergrads at, boy oh boy, Johns Hopkins University, fielded several dozen such warm phone calls way back when as high school seniors. Oh no, you say? You mean that, save for your guidance counselor, no one even knew about the mere existence of Hopkins, let alone how to properly pronounce it? Sucks, doesn't it?

Quite sadly, Hopkins' reputation hasn't improved and shows no signs of doing so in the near future. *U.S. News and World Report's* annual college and university rankings, the ultimate barometer of what the "hot" schools will be, is entirely overrated.

For starters, the omnipresent troika of Ivy League powerhouses (namely, Harvard, Princeton and Yale) claims the top spots in college rankings *every single year*. Our very own Hopkins took a mad plummet from the number seven spot just two short years ago down to its current number 16 spot, which it shares with Brown.

Brown. The school where it is possible to graduate by taking almost all pass/fail classes! Can you imagine the

sea of elated faces, positively brimming with gratitude, if we could take Physics and Orgo like that? And besides, how can we trust *U.S. News* if their ratings fluctuate so drastically

**MICHELLEFIKS**

GUEST EDITORIAL

in such a short period of time?

Let's face it. We face a lose-lose situation here at JHU. With grades that are significantly deflated, not only

You mean that, save for your guidance counselor, no one even knew about the mere existence of Hopkins?

does our morale take a significant nosedive, but it also hurts our chances

of getting into those top-notch grad schools. The *New York Times* recently wrote that the percentage of As doled out by Harvard professors has not only been on the rise in recent years, but is actually close to 60 percent (if memory serves me correctly). They write that professors at *Ha-vahd* are concerned that students will see them as hard graders if they are any stricter with their grading policies. Finally, the secret comes out as to what makes Harvard a gem — the professors actually care about the students there!

This lose-lose situation also shows up in aspects related to the admissions process. Because Hopkins is not very well known, fewer people apply. As such, its selectivity rating drops, which in turn causes fewer of those top notch applicants to apply in the first place. How can we reverse this trend? For starters, it would help if Hopkins more actively recruited pre-frosh, which would not only result in an increase in applications (and hence, a surge in the selectivity rankings) but also get the word out on the street that hey, Johns Hopkins University exists!

Who knows how long it will be until Hopkins once again rises to the pinnacle of the college rankings? But then again, we all know how superficial the rankings are.

# Rhetoric or policy: Diplomatic faces and masked intentions

**A**mong the foreign policy questions raised by America's involvement in the war in Afghanistan is whether our strategy is to play against the Arab terrorist and fundamentalists' "politics of denial" or to appear to play into the hypocrisy of their diplomacy. As our press and popular culture take a deeper look into Arab society and practice, what we find is not encouraging.

Instead of finding a source of common ground in our "moderate" Arab allies, the United States seems to be inundated with hate spewing from the Arab world — most often under the veil of friendship. Our foreign policy makers appear fooled time and again, while the hate mongers are left off the hook.

In a recent *New York Times* report, some secrets of the 24-hour Arabic news channel, al Jazeera, were revealed. Far from the bastion of free press it is made out to be by U.S. media, this satellite television station, broadcast from Qatar, is just another clone fomenting hate across the airwaves directed at Americans and Israelis, Christians and Jews.

Although it has been pointed to by "60 Minutes" as "the first Arab news organization that is independent and uncensored," it is financially supported by the rulers of Qatar and, similarly, subscribes to the prevailing anti-American sentiment of the region. Often referring to the war in Afghanistan as the "war against the alleged terrorists," reporters and call-in guests frequently resort to preaching hate against the United States and her friends, most notably our close and only truly trustworthy ally in the region. To his everlasting credit, Mayor Rudy Giuliani honored the memories of those murdered by promptly returning the bribe to the prince.

Beneath al Jazeera's thin veil of journalistic integrity is the Arab Lord Haw-Haw. Notwithstanding, the myth is pressed and al Jazeera's tactics are praised as "reforming." This raises another question. Is America's good-humored oversight and inability to label things accurately just rhetoric, or is it policy?

Earlier this week Saudi Prince Saud al-Faisal said he was "very much encouraged" by Secretary of State Colin Powell's speech indicating America's renewed activity in Middle East peace negotiations. He claimed that it was "time that action be taken in the Middle East to bring the peace process to fruition" so that we might "soothe anti-American feelings in Arab countries." If this is such an important aspect of Middle East stability and, therefore, in every Arab nation's interest, why has the most influential nation in the region done nothing more than demand others' involvement?

Indeed, while Palestinian spokespeople like Hanan Ashrawi claim Israeli "occupation of Palestinian land" is a reason for continued violence, they have not yet offered a solution of their own to the problem. When the Camp David talks fell through last year after many offers and plans both from the U.S. and Israel, there was not a single Palestin-

ian counter-proposal.

Although immediately following the talks' disintegration, President Bill Clinton put the blame on Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, his anger quickly dissipated and the United States promptly went back to its negotiation mode. Even as recently as the beginning of this week, when Ameri-

**DAVID LEIMAN**

SINE QUA NON

can envoys were en route to facilitate peace talks, Palestinians scoffed at America by greeting them with a fresh roadside suicide bombing directed at Israeli soldiers. This is juxtaposed to other Arab leaders like al-Faisal, calling for American help. Which statement do they intend to make? What do they really mean?

This two-faced strategy continues to permeate Arab diplomacy, when their leaders say something out of one side of their mouth and quickly follow it up with an opposing action from the other. The real problem, though, is that the U.S. continues to play into it.

Or do we? Recently, a Saudi prince offered New York City ten million dollars in the relief effort for the Trade Center tragedy. Yet it was not even a year ago at a pan-Muslim conference that Saudi Arabia pledged \$500 million to aid in the Intifada against Israel, our closest and only truly trustworthy ally in the region. To his everlasting credit, Mayor Rudy Giuliani honored the memories of those murdered by promptly returning the bribe to the prince.

Nonetheless, our official policy, as dictated by President George Bush, remains unclear. He has pledged to "find the other terrorists who threaten America and our friends and to fight these evil ones." Yet, despite Pales-

tinian terrorists who routinely "threaten our friend" Israel everyday with violence, mayhem and murder, there is no talk of dismantling the Palestinian Authority that tacitly and openly, supports this evil.

This begs the question: Do our words really represent our intentions? If we mean to make good on our promises, then let's do it. Are our promises to Israel and our other friends just empty words? When, in response to hearing President Bush speak, a U.S. Army soldier says he "can't wait to go out and kill some enemy," should the Administration query him further as to who the enemy is? If this Administration is not clear about who the good guys and bad guys are, then we run the very real risk of frittering away our credibility capital. We cannot afford to have our rhetoric say one thing while

[...] the United States seems to be inundated with hate spewing from the Arab world — most often under the veil of friendship.

our policy does another.

Words are precious and they mean a great deal. However, the Bush Administration is in danger of poisoning the well of words by allowing straightforward and sound policy to fall victim to the rhetoric and "politics of denial" encountered in the Arab world. We cannot afford to dissipate the irreplaceable enthusiasm vital to win the war against all terrorism.

**Do you have something to say?**  
**Send us a letter.**

## LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu) for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

# OPINIONS

## Seeing the enemy where they're not

A group founded by Lynne Cheney hunts for traitors and finds them at the ivory tower

For most of the 1990s, conservatives made a habit of exposing instances of "political correctness gone awry." Usually, a conservative would make an unpopular statement on an issue such as affirmative action or reparations for slavery, most likely on a college campus or in a college town such as Berkeley, California, after which he or she would be berated by the community for his or her alleged insensitivity or racism. Often, newspapers got confiscated and offices picketed.

Conservative commentators and radio talk show hosts, always happy to play the victim of liberal groups that themselves played the victim, gave a great deal of air time and column space to these alleged First Amendment infringements. If liber-



**CHARLES DONEFER**  
WE'RE LEFT,  
THEY'RE WRONG

the conservatives said, why were they always trying to keep people who opposed their views from expressing themselves?

Of course, this sort of thing almost always took place in environments where the those agreeing with the attacked conservative were a very small minority. Nowadays, conservatives find themselves articulating the position of the vast majority of Americans on military issues. Having been punished for their views for so long, do you think they would have learned from their campus persecution and encouraged the free and open debate of ideas that they were denied on many race issues for so long?

Of course not.

One must expect hypocrisy from the same people who claim that the war justifies a suspension of the Fifth and Sixth Amendments but not Bayer's patent on the anti-anthrax drug Cipro.

Now that a hawkish policy is supported by a large majority of the popu-

lation, conservatives have become just as vigorous in attacking liberals who depart even slightly from the Bush administration line.

Perhaps the most egregious example of this is a report from the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA), an organization whose founders include failed romance novelist and second lady Lynne V. Cheney. The report is entitled "Defending Civilization: How Our Universities Are Failing America and What Can Be Done About It."

In the opening paragraph of the report, a dire picture is painted. America is united behind a military response, but, "Not so in academe... professors across the country sponsored teach-ins that typically ranged from moral equivocation to explicit condemnations of America."

So, what were these anti-American professors saying? The ACTA report gives 100 examples.

"As we think about [punishing those responsible], it's very important for Americans to think about our own history, what we did in World War II to Japanese citizens." Are these the words of a traitor or those of a concerned citizen who would rather we respond to the terrorist threat in a way consistent with our values?

How about these words, obviously from a traitor: "[We should] build bridges and relationships, not simply bombs and walls."

A professor of religious studies at Pomona College said, "We have to learn to use courage for peace instead of war." Is attacking this statement really the defending civilization? Besides, the report gives no hint as to the context in which this was said.

According to Cheney and her partners-in-arms at ACTA, Ghandi is a threat to America and civilization. Quote 33 is from a sign at a protest

rally that said "An eye for an eye leaves the world blind." Perhaps Ghandi was right when he said that western civilization was "a good idea."

Of course, some of the quotes were derived from the long-standing academic tradition of occasionally trotting out the same tired, discredited

Now that a hawkish policy is supported by a large majority of the population, conservatives have become just as vigorous in attacking liberals who depart even slightly from the Bush administration line.

Marxist drivel about oppressive capitalist overlords that students haven't given serious credence to for decades. This can be excused—at least they're consistent, even if they're ignored.

Still, most of the quotes in the ACTA report are innocuous. They only represent a "threat" to conservatives because they encourage thinking independently from the White House line, if only marginally. ACTA is behaving as a self-appointed enforcer of the Bush administration's policies, which puts it in the absurd position of attacking people who dare to say that, *ceteris paribus*, peace is preferable to war, that America should obey the human rights it attacks other countries for violating and that giving arms to radical groups to fight the communists might have had unforeseen, negative consequences.

Cheney, ACTA and the Bush administration should be glad that the current military action in Afghanistan is so widely approved of and ought not worry about professors discussing moral ambiguities that America's most powerful C student does not.

## Overcoming the urge to kill a cabbie

Until last night, I was fully prepared to write a scintillating opinion piece about the most addicting and entertaining show on television. I was going to explain in great detail how uncannily rewarding and amusing it is to see couples cheat on each other and break up on national television in an article entitled "Temptation Island rocks my socks." But something happened last night that really dampened the joy I was feeling in anticipation of sharing my love of Ti2 with all of you.

Last night, some jackass BWI Airport cabbie tried to seriously rip me off. Three young Hopkins ladies and I rode from the airport to Wolman and the dude tried to double charge us. Actually, he was going to charge me \$21 dollars of a \$27 dollar fare because I was getting the "discount" while the girls would split another charge of \$21 dollars. So basically, the stupid tool was charging \$42 for \$27 worth of work and effectively triple charging me with his generous discount.

Luckily my ride mates also saw that I was getting screwed and that the cabbie was a total jerk off and so, instead of paying the \$21 I supposedly owed the guy (who, by the way, could have used the money to buy some soap), the girls and I argued with the fat jerk in front of Wolman for 20 minutes, swearing our heads off—the girls and I cursing in English and the cabbie yelling in Craplan or something.

Not to mention that before all of this, it took 40 minutes to get a cab and an hour and a half to get my bags before that! How is a guy supposed to entertain you with his thoughts on the classiest and most intellectual show on television after going through such an ordeal?

As Mark Wahlberg (no relation to the Funky Bunch of that I am aware), the host of Ti2, says, I had to make a choice. Ti2 (and the incident last night) have taught me a few things. Sometimes, in the heat of the moment, whether you're getting drunk with 20 single girls or arguing over a fare with a smelly cabbie, you say or do things out of character.

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

**DAVID DEBRUIN**  
GUEST EDITORIAL

you kiss somebody who's not your girlfriend, maybe you kiss two girls, maybe you do a lot more than kiss or maybe you tell some S.O.B. mo-fo cabbie to "[expletive] off."

The point is, I'm sure that when Edmundo isn't surrounded by 20 single girls and totally liquored up, there's no way he ever would have gotten on that guy chick. And likewise, if that bastard wasn't trying to literally steal my money by not giving me change, I probably wouldn't have lost my voice yelling at the stupid schmuck.

When you really look at it, we all live in a Temptation Island of sorts. True, although the show really takes place on a Costa Rican peninsula, there is much to be learned from FOX's epic series about love and relationships. Passions and tempers will

Sometimes, in the heat of the moment, whether you're getting drunk with 20 single girls or arguing over a fare with a smelly cabbie, you say or do things out of character.

flare when we are put in awkward and unfamiliar situations. I still think Edmundo is the man despite his mistakes. I mean, the cute blond likes him, the hot chick with the big, umm, lips like him and his girlfriend is hot.

Let's just hope that the next time that Edmundo decides to cheat on his girlfriend, he does it right and gets on the two cute chicks. I mean, if you're gonna cheat, do it right.

On the same note, I'm sure that next time some damn cabbie tries to jerk me around, I'll knock him right on his fat ass. Why? Because that's what Edmundo would do.

## Stop the war against America

While victory may be in sight in Afghanistan, the war at home continues. Before, the radical leftists came out against the war while most Americans were still mourning over the losses of Sept. 11. Now that the war in Afghanistan is progressing, their rhetoric is heightened to criticize no one but America.

Professor Robert Jensen of University of Texas is a perfect example. He has written that the terrorists' acts were "no more despicable than the massive acts of terrorism... that the U.S. government has committed..." Similarly, Dr. Richard Falk at Princeton has said that the terrorist attacks occurred because "the mass of humanity... finds itself under the heels of U.S. economic, military, cultural and diplomatic power." Worse yet, Dr. George Wright of Chico State University alleges that President Bush wants to "kill innocent people," "colonize" the entire Arab world and secure "oil for the Bush family."

Listening to them, one must wonder why they are so popular among some people. But the answer is actually simple. Just as it was easy to talk about "Fighting the Establishment" in the 1960s, it is easy today to talk about protesting "the power of oil companies" and U.S. "imperialism." In fact, it has always been harder to advocate just war than unjust peace, unity than disunity, honor over comfort and character over irresponsibility.

Their so called "fight against hatred," is, in fact, nothing more than hatred against this country, most notably American history. To them, the U.S. intervention in Latin America is equivalent to Attila the Hun's pillages. Surprisingly though, even their political forefathers respected American history. When Earl Browder, a prominent American communist, talked of the need for communism, he cited Washington and Lincoln. After all, the man even helped to run a "Party School of Jefferson."

Compared to that, the modern leftists are worse. Although they might no longer have the guts to say that communism works, the radicals hate almost all of American history including what most people would regard to be the best traditions. Instead, the left-wing exaggerates American mistakes in the past. They sing their praise to the so-called, "newthinkers" such as Noam Chomsky. Yes, the same man who visited N. Vietnam

through a communist invitation and said, "I believe that in the U.S. there will be some day social revolution that will be of great significance to us and to all of mankind, and if this hope is to be proven correct, it will be in

**STEVE PARK**  
THE RIGHT EDGE

large part because the people of Vietnam have shown us the way."

Sure, extreme leftists write posters that ask for "tolerance" and "freedom of speech," but if their talk is cheap, their actions are even cheaper. In fact, they never fail to pass judgment on others. Paranoid, they put every American under a microscope to find any traces of racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. They talk of freedom of speech, while the only speech they tolerate is their own. Needless to say, expect no mercy if they perceive you to disagree. If anyone wants to mention some of the good that the U.S. did during the Cold War such as West Germany, Japan and South Korea, then they are immediately branded as "imperialists." In the end, the so called "progressives" and "revisionists" are guilty of intolerance just like Pat Robertson.

Furthermore, they must have slept through AP U.S. History if they are claiming that this war against terrorism is particularly undermining civil liberties. During the Civil War, President Lincoln suspended *habeas corpus* and Roosevelt in WWII decided

Their [Leftists'] so called "fight against hatred," is, in fact, nothing more than hatred against this country [...]

to use military tribunals to sentence spies. But did the U.S. return to its normal practice of civil liberties after the war? Always. While the U.S. might narrow civil liberties during wartime,

it has never failed to respect them after the war. Consequently, before anyone balks at the thought of military tribunals, he or she needs to realize that: 1. the courts will be hearing war crimes and not civil crimes; 2. this is not unprecedented.

The only possible and unlikely case that the U.S. will not return to normal levels of civil liberties for an extended period of time is if the war on terrorism becomes indefinite. In other words, al-Qaeda has to be invincible for life to continue in a war state. But to believe that one must be either insane or Osama bin Laden himself. Only bin Laden would believe that

The only possible and unlikely case that the U.S. will not return to normal levels of civil liberties for an extended period of time is if the war on terrorism becomes indefinite.

his network is invincible even as he is being abandoned by the Taliban and hunted by the American special forces.

The extreme Leftists have no shame. But how could they? They are often too deeply isolated in their own world to know it. Many of them are products of political immaturity and absence of common sense as they protest the conspiracies or "the oil companies." For whatever reason, they lack any sense of what made this country great - love for America. Hence, the question that governs the debate of the war against terrorism should not be whether civil liberties will be undermined or whether America is an empire. Instead, the most imperative question that needs to be asked and asked again is this: Do the extreme Leftists hate this war or America?

Sources include: The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, The Washington Times, Front Page Magazine, The Heterodoxy, The

A ll is not well in Silicon Valley these days. As the economic recession begins to spread beyond the dotcom-ers, we must recognize that this downturn will affect all of us. This slowdown is already impacting us as students, but it is also sure to hurt those around us, including the lower-wage employees alongside whom we live and work.

It is under these circumstances that it made sense for us, as members of the Student Labor Action Committee (SLAC), to give a short report on the status of wages and working conditions at the Johns Hopkins Institutions.

Ever since SLAC's formation in 1996, we have pushed Hopkins to follow the same policy as the City of Baltimore: pay employees a Living Wage. The Living Wage is not simply a number, but a measure of how we, as a society, value work, compensation and the rights of all workers to live with respect, dignity and freedom from poverty. The Living Wage is an hourly wage determined by the federal poverty line for a family of four. Currently, that wage in Baltimore City is \$8.20 an hour and rises every year based upon inflation and changes in the cost of living.

On March 16, 2000, SLAC ended its 17-day sit-in of Garland Hall and reached an agreement with the Hopkins administration to increase and accelerate wages for all Hopkins employees and sub-contracted workers. The agreement guaranteed that almost all Hopkins employees (both direct and indirect) would make no less than \$7.75 an hour by July 1, 2001, a major victory for workers in the city at the time. Although we recognized that we had to reach a compromise, \$7.75 is not a Living Wage and it loses value over time. Therefore, we are still striving for our overall goal of a Living Wage. After doing our own research and investigation, we are pleased to report that Hopkins

has honored its agreement in most areas, and most employees are paid at least \$7.75.

We are also deeply saddened and discouraged that parking attendants

**ERIC LESLIE**  
GUEST EDITORIAL

at the Medical Institution are still paid just \$7.00 an hour and will not receive a raise until next July. This wage amounts to just \$14,000 a year before taxes for a full-time employee. One Hopkins parking attendant told us she has to work two full-time jobs just to get by and take care of her one-year old baby. In her spare time, she is enrolled in evening classes to obtain a nursing degree, but has had to miss classes and exams because of her

By indirectly employing janitors at this incredibly low wage, Hopkins may be violating the sit-in agreement [...]

multiple employers' work schedules. All of this leaves her with little time to raise and care for her young child. She is working hard to build a stable future for her family and yet is still facing the challenges of poverty.

Even more disconcerting is our recent realization that janitors working at the Candler Building downtown are paid \$5.15 an hour. Two

floors of the Candler Building are home to departments of the Bloomberg School of Public Health. By indirectly employing janitors at this incredibly low wage, Hopkins may be violating the sit-in agreement and is certainly contributing to the cycle of poverty in this city. Many of you agree with our sentiments as almost one thousand students have already signed our petition asking the administration to intervene and demand that the Candler Building pay its employees at least \$7.75 an hour.

A year and a half after the historic Living Wage sit-in, we find that the status of workers at Hopkins mimics the national trend of the last decade. Similar to most lower and middle-income employees in this country, low-wage workers at Hopkins are slightly better off. However, like most large institutions, Hopkins has grown in leaps and bounds. Hopkins operating revenue for 2000 was \$1,881,199,000 ([http://www.jhu.edu/news\\_info/finance00/index.html](http://www.jhu.edu/news_info/finance00/index.html)).

This Tuesday, Dec. 4, SLAC will meet with the Hopkins administration to offer our extended report of working conditions and receive Hopkins' own review of wages. We are pleased that the administration continues to meet with us, but we remain steadfast in our demand for a Living Wage.

In this season of giving, let us not just "give" to the struggling Amazon.com's of the world, but also devise ways in which we, as an institution, can give back to the community wherein we reside. After all, this statement mirrors the same language spelled out in the original Mission Statement of the Johns Hopkins University.

Maaha Jafry and Steven Porter contributed to this editorial. Jafry is a freshman and both Leslie and Porter are seniors. All three are members of the SLAC. For more information about SLAC, visit: <http://slac.members.easyspace.com>.

# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Kimmel donates millions to Hopkins cancer center

BY MELISSA HUANG  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Johns Hopkins University's cancer center, one of the world's best cancer centers, received \$150 million from a generous billionaire, Sidney Kimmel, the 73-year-old philanthropist, turned Jones Apparel Group Inc. to a fashion empire that produces brands such as Polo Jeans, Ralph Lauren and Nine West. Jones Apparel is projecting sales of about \$4 billion for this year.

The twenty-eight-year-old cancer center treats about six thousand new patients per year, and it is already one of the nation's largest cancer centers. Doctors at the center work on research of vaccines, gene therapy and molecular genetics of cancer. Innovative surgery and treatments such as bone marrow transplantation are all offered at the center.

At a recent news conference, Ronald R. Peterson, President of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System, said that part of the money will be used to build comfortable housing for the families of cancer patients. The location of the lodgings has not been declared.

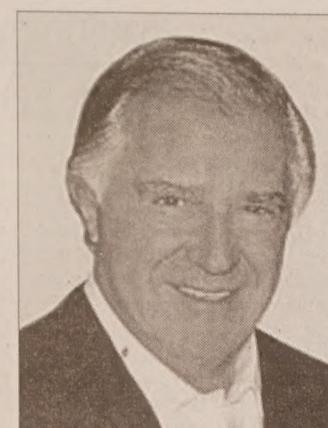
"There are homes in East Baltimore, but too few to meet the demand," said Dr. Martin Abeloff, director of the cancer center.

Abeloff also said that the fund will provide the center the ability to expand its staff of 400 physicians and scientists by recruiting new talented young scientists. Plus, the center can make the decisions on which areas of research merit additional grant.

Kimmel, the son of a Philadelphia cabbie, owns a hotel, a movie production film, part of the Miami Heat basketball team and restaurants. When his best friend's twenty-five-year-old daughter died of cancer in

the early 1990s, Kimmel launched his career as a philanthropist.

"Here's a man who has everything he wants in life, but knows he can't spend it. He wants to have an impact," said Dr. Gary Cohen, director



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.KIMMELCENTER.ORG

**Kimmel donates \$150 million to help further cancer research at JHU.**

of the cancer center at Greater Baltimore Medical Center who treated Annie Butera, the daughter of Kimmel's best friend.

Immediately after Annie's death, Kimmel gave \$5 million to a San Diego researcher who was involved in Annie's case. For the past eight years, Kimmel's nonprofit organization has handed out millions and financially supported three other cancer centers named after him in Philadelphia, San Diego and New York. In addition, Kimmel also sponsored a performing arts center in Philadelphia and an exhibit gallery at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

Although Kimmel has never been

diagnosed for cancer and has no private connection to Baltimore, he was impressed by the Hopkins cancer center where he visited two years ago. Kimmel attended meetings in the medical school dean's board room, where he heard many cancer researchers explain about their pioneering experiments and the fact that research could move faster and further with more fund. Kimmel showed great interest in the topics discussed and asked keen questions. Two years later, Kimmel decided that his largest gift should go to Hopkins after discussing it with his own panel of scientific advisors.

University officials pointed out that Kimmel was impressed by Hopkins' effort along with the state to utilize the money from the settlement of Maryland's lawsuit against the tobacco industry to fight cancer.

Dr. Edward D. Miller, the dean of the Hopkins medical school, said "We seek nothing less than the eradication of cancer in our lifetime, and this gift brings us closer to that goal."

"He wants to give away all his money to help find a cure for cancer. That's going to be his lasting contribution to the world. Sidney Kimmel, you are a tremendously good man," said Dr. Curt I. Civin, a Hopkins on-

He wants to give away all his money to help find a cure for cancer. That's going to be his lasting contribution to the world. Sidney Kimmel, you are a tremendously good man.

— DR. CURT CIVIN

cology professor.

The New York clothing industry billionaire said in a written statement, "I am blessed. To be able to support one of the leading institutions in the world and build its momentum gives so much meaning to what we have all done thus far to defeat cancer." Kimmel brings passion, energy and sense into his philanthropic career.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A9

Sharon Boyce, the director of research for Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp., the nation's third-largest tobacco company, did not dispute those findings. But she said it's important to note that, if smokers are aware of how they smoke, light cigarettes can deliver less tar than regular ones.

The World Health Organization is sponsoring talks on an international convention meant to reduce smoking and tobacco-related disease, which kills 4 million people each year worldwide. One of the provisions is for a ban on terms such as "mild" and "low-tar."

John Kirkwood, chief executive officer of the American Lung Association, said health groups sent letters Tuesday to members of Congress and the Bush administration calling for Food and Drug Administration regulation of tobacco. They also sent letters to tobacco companies urging them to voluntarily stop using low-tar labels on their cigarettes.

Boyce said Brown & Williamson opposes such a ban. A spokesman for Philip Morris Inc., the nation's largest tobacco company, said the company would support greater regulation of the terms "low-tar" and "light."

The effort to produce and market low-tar cigarettes gained momentum in the 1960s, after public health advocates said cigarettes with less tar would produce less cancer. But studies by the American Cancer Society in the 1960s and 1980s found lung cancer death rates among male and female smokers rose even as tar levels in cigarettes dropped by 60 percent.

Tar is a carcinogen that is produced when tobacco is burned. It helps deliver nicotine to smokers. Low-tar cigarettes are supposed to have less than 15 milligrams of tar.

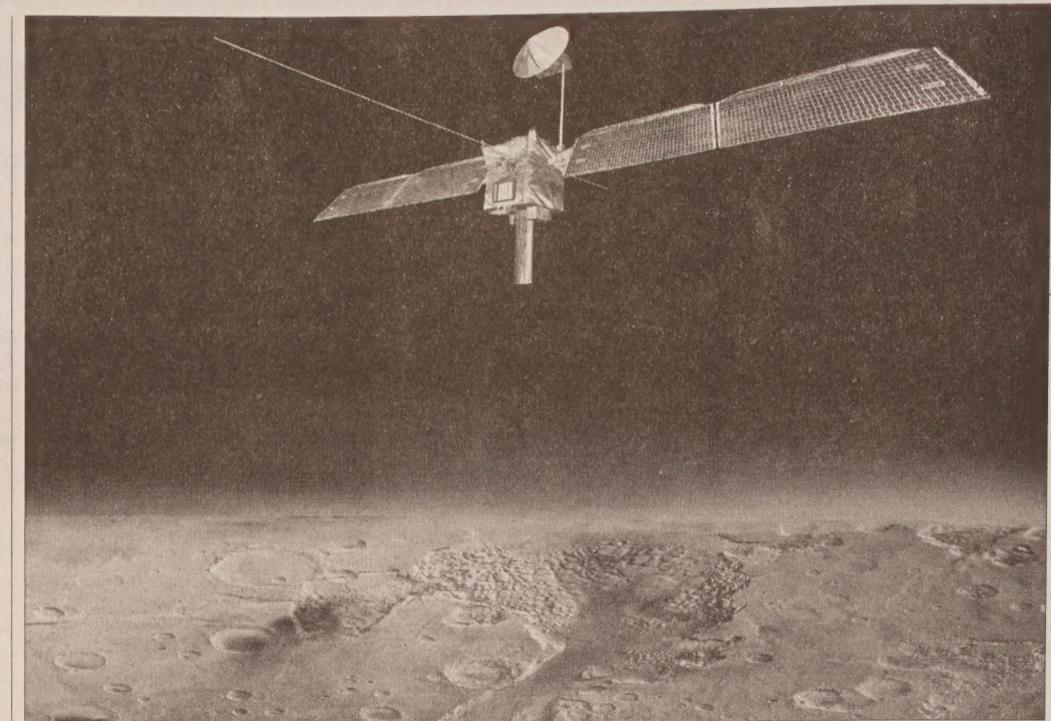
The study found that people who switched to light brands typically thought they were reducing their risk of developing smoking-related disease and that tobacco companies contributed to those assumptions through advertising and marketing campaigns.

"The results of the review are clear. There is no convincing evidence that changes in cigarette design over the last 50 years have reduced the disease burden produced by cigarettes," Burns said.

The study also found cigarettes that yielded low tar and nicotine levels when tested on Federal Trade Commission machines had higher levels when smoked by people, partly because people take larger puffs and smoke more of the cigarette. In addition, smokers can inadvertently cover ventilation holes in the filter designed to lower tar levels.

"Never allow yourself to get into the predicament that I'm in," said

CONTINUED ON PAGE A9



COURTESY OF HTTP://MARS.JPL.NASA.GOV/GALLERY/SPACECRAFT/APL

## APL designs components for satellite aimed at Mars

BY JONATHAN GROVER  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

With an expected launch date of August 2005, the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter will be the latest mission in NASA's exploration of Mars.

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) will examine the surface of Mars in greater depth than any previous missions have, paying special attention to the regions where images from the Mars Global Surveyor detected hints of water. The MRO will essentially blur the lines between surface observations and orbital measurements.

The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) is poised to play a critical role in the mission. The APL has been given the two year, \$17.6 million task of constructing a Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars, or CRISM. CRISM will be able to search for mineral residues left by the presence of water on the Martian surface.

CRISM's scanning mechanisms allow its visible and infrared spectrometers to pick up the spectrum of reflected sunlight in order to determine the mineral content of materials on the surface of the planet.

As the MRO passes over an area of Mars, CRISM will be able to track and map a targeted region from multiple

angles at a scale as small as 25 meters (82 feet).

According to Dr. Scott Murchie of the Applied Physics Laboratory and CRISM's principal investigator: "By looking at the different spectra of reflected sunlight, the instrument will pick up the 'fingerprints' of different minerals... Finding certain minerals on the surface tells you that water has been there. The exact combination of minerals tells you about the climatic conditions at the surface when the water flowed as liquid."

While not scanning at high-resolution, CRISM will scour the planet at a reduced set of wavelengths in search of new sites of interest for future missions.

This tool, coupled with the MRO high-resolution imager, which can return images of Mars at resolutions high enough to locate beach-ball size rocks, will identify perfect locations for future landers to touch down.

Despite CRISM being the first APL-developed tool for a Mars mission, the Johns Hopkins Laboratory has built fifty-nine space crafts and one hundred thirty-six instruments which have been utilized in a number of Earth-orbiting as well as deep space missions.

In fact, APL is managing NASA's Comet Nucleus Tour (CONTOUR) mission set to launch in July 2002. CONTOUR will study at least two comets in great depth using a high-resolution camera and spectral map-

per currently being constructed at the APL.

"The requirements for making these kinds of observations on Mars are similar to those for mapping the nucleus of a comet," said Dennis Fort.

By looking at the different spectra of reflected sunlight, the instrument will pick up the 'fingerprints' of different minerals... which tells you that water has been there.

— DR. SCOTT MURCHIE

CRISM systems engineer.

Accordingly the design of CONTOUR will be extremely useful in the CRISM project.

"The approach used on CONTOUR for tracking a comet and acquiring high resolution spectra adapts nicely to prospecting for small mineral deposits on the surface of Mars from orbit," said Fort.

## UPCOMING LECTURES AT HOMWOOD AND JHMI

Thursday, November 29

"Medicine and Science Confront Aging: The Case of Hormone Replacement Therapy"  
Prof Elizabeth Watkins  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Welch Medical Library Seminar Room 303, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 29

"Molecular Pathways Regulating Skeletal Muscle Function"  
Dr. Leslie Leinwand  
Dept of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology,  
University of Colorado  
517 PCTB, 3:15 p.m.

Monday, December 3

"A Theorist's View of the General Circulation of the Ocean"  
Dr Geoff Vallis  
GFDL Princeton University  
305 Olin Hall, 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 4

"Modeling Cancer in the Mouse: New insights into Oncogenic Ras Function"  
David Tuvonen, MD, Ph.D.  
MIT Cancer Center,  
Dana Barber Cancer Institute  
Bodian Conference Center, 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 5

"Got Milk? The Calcium Signaling Network in Eukaryotic Cells"  
Dr. Kyle Cunningham  
Johns Hopkins University  
Mudd Hall Auditorium, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

"Force-Mediated Focal Contact Movement in Endothelium"  
Professor George Truskey  
Dept of Biomedical Engineering, Duke University  
Maryland Hall Room 110, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 6

"How Yeast Mitochondria Make Proteins and Put Them Where They Belong"  
Thomas D Fox, PhD  
Dept of Molecular Biology and Genetics Cornell Univ  
Bodian Conference Center, 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

"Industrializing Academic Science: The Growth of Physics Research at Westinghouse Electric and the University of Pittsburgh, 1925-1941"  
Thomas Lassman  
Chemical Heritage Foundation  
Gilman 329, 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

"The Organization of the Lexicon: Insight from Anomias"  
Michele Miozzo  
Assistant Professor,  
Psychology Department  
134A Krieger Hall, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, December 7

"Ocean Acoustic Observatory"  
Norman Owsley, ONR  
Maryland Hall 218, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 13

"Large-Scale Chromatin Structure and Dynamics"  
Andrew Belmont, M.D., Ph.D.  
Dept of Cell and Structural Biology  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Bodian Conference Center, 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 13

"Localization of Membrane Signaling Molecules by Membrane Skeleton Meshes and Rafts—Studies by Single Molecule Technologies"  
Akihiro Kusumi, D. Sc.  
Nagoya University Nagoya, Japan  
Mudd Hall 100, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, December 14

"Role for Research in On-Going Navy Programs"  
Donald Duncan  
APL  
Maryland Hall 218, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 20

"Apoptosis and Autoimmunity"  
Antony Rosen, M.D.  
Dept of Medicine Division of Molecular and Clinical  
Rheumatology Johns Hopkins Univ  
Bodian Conference Center, 12:00 p.m.

## SCIENCEBRIEFS

### THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8

Brady, who has been unable to quit smoking. "The switch to low-tar lured me into a feeling of false security."

### AIDS virus sweeping across eastern Europe

The AIDS epidemic is sweeping across Eastern Europe, with HIV infection rates rising faster within the former Soviet Union than anywhere else in the world, according to the latest U.N. report on AIDS, published Wednesday.

The combination of economic insecurity, high unemployment and deteriorating health services in the region are behind the steep rise, which shows no signs of abating, said U.N. officials, in Moscow to launch the report.

Worldwide, "HIV/AIDS is unequivocally the most devastating disease we have ever faced, and it will get worse before it gets better," Peter Piot, executive director of the Joint U.N. Program on HIV/AIDS wrote in the report, which is updated annually ahead of World AIDS Day, held every Dec. 1.

In Russia, more than 75,000 new cases of HIV infection were reported by early November, compared to 56,000 new cases last year.

"That works out to about 10,000 new cases every month," said Gennady Onishchenko, Russia's first deputy health minister. "This is our reality... It is a very serious problem."

Ukraine has the highest HIV prevalence rate in the region, with an estimated 1 percent of adults infected. In the small Baltic nation of Estonia, 1,112 new cases of HIV infection were recorded in the first nine months of this year, compared to only 12 in all of 1999, officials said.

The U.N. report said that in Eastern Europe, as in the rest of the world, AIDS affects a disproportionate number of young people. The main method of transmission in the former Soviet Union is through injecting drugs.

"It is a teen-age epidemic — teenagers experimenting with drugs, teenagers experimenting with sex," Piot said.

Officials in Eastern Europe have blamed the epidemic's increase partly on the sudden opening of borders, the growth of organized crime and weakened social services following the collapse of communist rule a decade ago.

Many young people, bored and unsure about their future, turn to drugs or unprotected sexual encounters, officials said.

Since the first clinical evidence of AIDS appeared 20 years ago, more than 22 million people have died. AIDS is the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa, which has been hit hardest by the epidemic.

This year, African nations will experience 3.4 million new infections and 2.3 million deaths — losses that not only drain national budgets but also put future generations at risk, depriving children of parents and local economies of their work force, officials said.

U.N. officials predicted that some of the most affected African nations could lose more than 20 percent of their GDP by 2020 because of AIDS.

The U.N. report said unsafe sex was on the rise in high-income countries such as the United States and some European nations, subsequently triggering a rise in sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.

"All the emphasis is put on treatment, which has had a major impact, but prevention has been neglected and education has been neglected," Piot said. "The price that we will have to pay for that neglect is very high."

The report found a bright spot in Cambodia, where prevention measures have had a significant impact, but officials also warned about the deteriorating situation in China and in the Caribbean, which continues to be the second most affected region in the world.

Last June, the U.N. General Assembly held a special session on HIV/AIDS, winning pledges from governments to pursue new preventive actions and contribute more funds to the fight. The United Nations estimates that some \$10 billion will be needed every year to fight AIDS in low and middle-income countries.

### Astronomers find space chemical

Astronomers have made the first measurement of a chemical in the at-

mosphere of a planet orbiting a distant star, using a technique that could help them find Earth-like bodies around other suns.

Using the Hubble Space Telescope, astronomers analyzed light shining through a planet's atmosphere as it orbited a star 150 light-years away. The changes in the color of the light proved the planet's atmosphere contained sodium.

"This is the first measurement ever of any atom in the atmosphere of an extrasolar planet," said Timothy Brown, a scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and a co-author of the study. "This proves it is possible to do a detailed analysis of an atmosphere so far away."

Brown's co-author, David Charbonneau of the California Institute of Technology, said the achievement illustrates how far astronomers have advanced in the search for other worlds that might hold life.

"Ten years ago it was considered crazy to talk about planets about other stars," Charbonneau said Tuesday at a news conference. Since then, astronomers have found 76 planets orbiting stars outside of the solar system, he said.

With the new technique, Charbonneau said, "All of sudden, looking for Earth-like planets seems very reasonable."

Alan P. Boss, an astronomer at the Carnegie Institution of Washington and an expert on planetary formation, called the Charbonneau-Brown discovery "a milestone" that pushes astronomy "into a new phase of extrasolar planetary exploration."

Boss said the finding means "there are indeed other solar systems out there waiting for us to discover." New telescopes specifically designed to find and analyze distant planets are now being planned, he said.

Bruce Margon of the Space Telescope Science Institute, which operates the Hubble Space Telescope for NASA, said the ability to analyze an extrasolar planet's atmosphere with the Hubble came as "a wonderful surprise. I never thought the Hubble would be able to do it."

The Charbonneau-Brown study focused on a planet that orbits a sun-like star called HD209458 in the constellation Pegasus, some 150 light-years from Earth. A light-year is the distance light travels in a year, or about six trillion miles.

The planet is about 70 percent the size of Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, but it orbits just 4 million miles from its parent star. As a result, the planet whips around the star every 3.5 days. In contrast, the Earth is about 93 million miles from the sun and takes a year to complete one orbit.

Earlier studies by Charbonneau and Brown had shown that the distant planet caused the light from HD209458 to dim slightly. The planet was, in effect, casting a shadow, when viewed from Earth, as it orbited the star. This phenomenon, called a transit, proved that the orbital plane of the planet is edge-on to the line-of-sight between the Earth and the star.

Charbonneau said that it takes three hours for the planet to pass across the face of the star, when viewed from Earth.

"For a period of three hours, the star is dimmer because not all of its light is reaching us," he said.

Their studies also showed that the planet was gaseous, like Jupiter, instead of solid, like Earth.

When the planet moves in front of its parent star, light from the star passes through the planet's atmosphere on its way to the Earth. As the light passes through, chemicals in the planet's atmosphere absorb some colors in the light.

Different compounds have different color signatures, said Brown.

He said in the initial test, the researchers looked only for sodium, a chemical that shows up with two colors of light in the yellow-green portion of the spectrum.

"Sodium is the spectral equivalent of skunk," Brown said. "You don't need much to detect it."

Researchers at the Space Telescope Science Institute said that new observations are planned to look for compounds such as methane, water, carbon dioxide and ozone. Discovering these compounds in a planet's atmosphere would suggest strongly that the planet had some form of life.

Brown said there was no expectation of finding evidence of life on the planet orbiting HD209458 — its thick clouds are heated to about 2,000 degrees.

"It is undesirable real estate," said Brown. "If you visited, the change in your pocket would melt."

# Biotech company clones first human embryos to create source of stem cells

BY DAVID MERRICK  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

A Massachusetts based company called Advanced Cell Technology (ACT) announced on Sunday that it has successfully cloned the first human embryo. While this announcement resulted in sharp disapproval from many religious groups the company's chief executive officer, Michael West, said that the goal of this research was not to produce cloned babies, but rather to create embryos as a source of valuable stem cells.

Competitors in the scientific community highlighted the fact that scientists at ACT have not been able to produce embryos even close to the size necessary to harvest stem cells. Only one of the cells in the trial was able to survive to the six cell stage, and all the embryos stopped dividing after a few hours.

"Do you call this thing an embryo?" asked stem cell expert John Gearhart of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "I would have been more impressed if they'd got these things to blastocysts."

Blastocysts are made up for about 100 cells in a hollow ball and represent one of the very early stages of development of the pre-embryo. Blastocysts are the earliest stage in development of the embryo from which stem cells can be harvested.

"The data is not very convincing," Gearhart said.

"From what I saw yesterday, these guys didn't get very far," said Kevin Wilson, spokesman for the American Society for Cell Biology.

West's team published the findings in the January issue of *Scientific American*, a magazine aimed at the general public, and in an online journal, *E-biomed: Journal of Regenerative Medicine*. This quick publication was rather unusual for this kind of research which is usually subjected to a long period of peer review, during

## Research center gets millions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8

"He's a street guy. He grew up in West and South Philly, and he has a long memory about where he came from," said Matthew Kames, a close friend and adviser of Jones Apparel's board.

A third of Kimmel's donation was received by the university this month, and the rest will be transferred to the center after Kimmel's death.

Last January, the center moved from cramped abodes into the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Building, a \$125 million clinical facility, and the \$59 million Bunting Blaustein Center Research Building. The names of the buildings identify previous donors, but the official name for the cancer center is now the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins.

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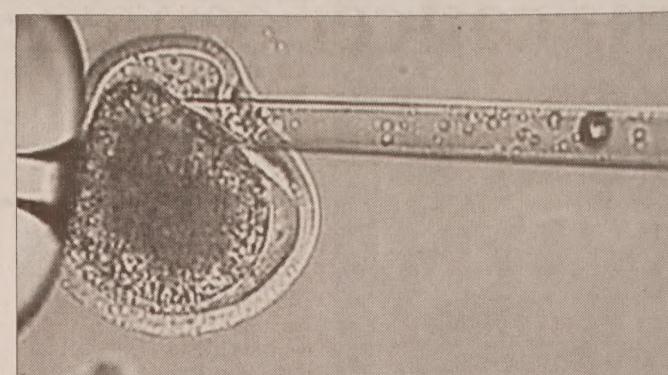
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"It is undesirable real estate," said Brown. "If you visited, the change in your pocket would melt."



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ABC.NET.AU/LANDLINE/IMG/Human embryo clones could someday be a source of valuable stem cells

which scientists outside the company try to reproduce the results reported in the study.

"On the one hand, I agree this is something which will be done, should be done. But to have it presented in such a fashion, even among scientists — it could have been done in a much more scientific manner, with peer reviews," Gearhart said.

Scientists who created Dolly the sheep, the first cloned mammal, called the work very preliminary.

Concern over the ethics of the procedure have caused many of the issues surrounding the Dolly sheep cloning to resurface.

"It is more a political and ethical milestone than it is a scientific milestone and certainly not a scientific breakthrough," said Harry Griffin of Scotland's Roslin Institute.

Debate over the use of stem cells for scientific purposes has reached even to the US Senate and the White House.

"The use of embryos to clone is wrong," President Bush told reporters. "We should not as a society grow life to destroy it. And that's exactly what's taking place."

Several bills have been introduced to the Senate proposing to ban cloning of stem cells for any reason, scientific or otherwise.

"We need to pass this before we go out of session this year," said Sen. Sam Brownback, a Kansas Republi-

can.

"Yesterday's disturbing news

The reason for developing human cloned embryos ...

would be to produce

cells that would

specifically be

designed for an

individual, namely that

would be compatible

with the individual's

immune system... It is

a worthwhile scientific

goal

— DR. CURT FREED

Senate," House Majority leader Richard Armey, a Texas Republican, said, "It's time for the Senate to put the deal-making aside and join the House in banning human cloning before it's too late."

Many pro-life groups, including National Right to Life support this kind of anti-cloning legislation, claiming, "This corporation is creating human embryos for the sole purpose of killing them and harvesting their cells. Unless Congress acts quickly, this corporation and others will be opening human embryo farms."

Despite the ethical concerns raised by members of Congress and many religious groups, most scientists agree that this line of research is important and must proceed. Cloning holds almost infinite potential in clinical and research fields. Among many other advances, it may one day allow doctors to literally grow new organs for patients, like a heart or a liver, that perfectly match their body's DNA, thus alleviating the organ donation shortage, and ease organ rejection problems associated with transplant operations. In addition, cloned embryos could provide a valuable source of stem cells, which can be used in many areas of research.

"I have been in contact with a number of congressional staffers and I think we were beginning to look behind the scenes at what we could do in a productive manner... and I think [the ACT cloning] brings it back to emotional level," said Gearhart, who has been petitioning Congress for many years to allow for the continuation of stem cell research.

"The reason for developing human cloned embryos... would be to produce cells that would specifically be designed for an individual, namely that would be compatible with the individual's immune system... It is a worthwhile scientific goal," said Dr. Curt Freed of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, who works with fetal cells to treat patients with Parkinson's.

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mosaics, detail, c. 325-330 A.D., Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design. By exchange with the Worcester Art Museum.

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## SPORTS

**Athlete of the Week: Krissy Brinsley**BY KAREN HIRSCH  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Krissy Brinsley is a senior public health major on the Hopkins varsity swimming team. In her three and a half years at Hopkins, Brinsley has garnered a long list of accolades both in and out of the pool.

Krissy began swimming when she was seven years old because her

ies HIV intervention. Brinsley is currently applying to graduate schools of public health and hopes to eventually work in international health.

After her classes end, Brinsley stays at the medical campus to work on a team with Professor Mike Sweat and six graduate students that studies HIV intervention.

As a team, the Hopkins swim-

mers have had great success in the past several years. The Blue Jays placed fifth at Nationals last year

higher. Brinsley describes the freshman class as a "huge asset" to the team, and she has a positive outlook for the season.

Despite being a Division III team, Hopkins competes against many Division I opponents, including the University of Maryland. This weekend, the team travels to Ohio for the Miami University of Ohio Invitational Meet where they will meet several Division I teams.

Brinsley has also had great individual success as a swimmer: she holds Hopkins records in several backstroke events as well as several relay records. As a freshman, she was named the UAA Conference Swimmer of the Year. Both as a freshman and as a junior, she was voted team MVP. She has been an Academic All American for the last two years.

This year, Brinsley has changed events; she will no longer be competing in the individual medley (IM), but will instead pick up several freestyle races. As a result, Brinsley goal is to place in the top eight nationally in every event. If her past finishes are any indication of what is to come, Brinsley should have no trouble achieving her goal.



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-Letter

Krissy Brinsley holds several Hopkins swimming records.

FILE PHOTO  
Women's Basketball overcame No. 17 Marymount with a 73-49 victory.**W.B-ball improves ranking to No. 20**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12

stopped. After going ahead 18-2, the Jays carried a 32-10 lead into half-time. Little changed after the half-time, however, as the Blue Jays opened the third quarter with a 23-3 scoring run to take a commanding 55-13 lead. Sumser added nine points while Kincaid joined Myers as each player scored eight points.

At any time, anybody could step up and contribute to make a big play.

—MICHELLE KINCAID

The Jays followed their blowout win against Villa Julie with an even more impressive win over No. 17 Marymount 73-49. Marymount stayed close early in the game but fell behind for good before halftime. Only leading by three points, the Jays went on a 17-5 scoring run to lead 38-23 at

the half.

Stepler provided a spark for the Jays by scoring 12 points but also recording nine assists. Darling led the team with 18 points while Myers contributed 13 points. Once again, the Blue Jays were proficient in spreading the ball around to different players.

"We have a very deep team this year. At any time, anybody could step up and contribute to make a big play," says Kincaid. Now undefeated with a record of 5-0, the Blue Jays are already beginning to earn high accolades. After being ranked No. 25 last week in the D3HOOPS.COM poll last week, Hopkins charged to No. 20 following its blowout victory against No. 17 Marymount.

Currently, Hopkins is the only Centennial Conference school named in the poll. Also, Darling was named this week to the Centennial Conference Honor Roll after amassing 27 points and 15 rebounds against Goucher and Villa Julie last week.

Johns Hopkins will next play Thursday at home against Delaware Valley at 7 p.m. The following Saturday, Hopkins will travel to face DeSales University at 1 p.m.

**Don't be surprised when early favorites falter**

The field of college hoopology is rapidly expanding these days. Every yahoo with ESPN, or at least FOX Sports Net, considers themselves to be an expert. They've already got their field of 64 all lined up and ready to go—they can't wait until March gets here. But let me tell you, it is not that easy. Sure, you pick one decent upset over the course of the season, and you look like a genius. Anyone can claim to have called the outcome of a game. Likewise, anyone

1899.

It's about that time for me to go on a pre-season-rankings-are-meaningless rant. At the start of this week, only three teams in the pre-season top ten—Duke, Illinois and Missouri—were still unbeaten. And then Illinois went and lost to Maryland on Tuesday.

So out of the ten supposedly most invincible teams in the nation, that leaves only two that survived the first two weeks of the season without a loss. And at the same time you've got teams coming out of nowhere to beat these highly ranked teams, like Ball State who knocked off Kansas and UCLA on consecutive nights, only to lose to Duke by a handfull in their third game in three days to a highly ranked opponent.

It's perfectly reasonable to expect a few of the highly-touted teams to fall, and an upset here or there is going to happen. Don't look so shocked when it does. Just because a team is ranked in the top four before the season even starts does not mean they will automatically be participating in the Final Four come March.

You can't base much on pre-season rankings. You've got to let the season play out a little more before the rankings become meaningful. Basketball's funny like that—a team can have one bad week and the world just comes crashing down, never to be in sight of a national ranking again. Besides, the season

doesn't really start until conference play begins. Sure, the Big Ten/ACC Challenge is an exciting television event where you're bound to have some highly ranked opponents knocking each other off, but I'll take a nice Big East game in the middle of February any day over one of these early season "tournaments" that ESPN made up.

Just because a team is ranked in the top four before the season even starts does not mean they will automatically be participating in the Final Four come March.

and in the next few weeks, they play such teams as Indiana State, IPFW (I have no idea what that stands for) and IUPUI (is that even a Division I team?). Their strength of schedule from this point on is not going to help Ball State's RPI, and in turn could hurt their ranking, but they've got their name out there now—everyone knows that they're a very potent team.

Southern California and Temple, who made up the last two spots in the top 25 last week, both got knocked out of the rankings as of Monday despite not playing a game last week. That has to suck.

Indiana got knocked out, too, but at least they lost a game to deserve it. Marquette and Wake Forest joined the ranks of the top 25 teams this week. We'll see how long that lasts.

Oh, and Derek Jeter is hosting Saturday Night Live this week, don't miss it.

—

AD

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Ford believes that even though the team did do well, the missing piece to a successful season was the lack of an consistent offensive system and mental attitude.

"We didn't have any consistency this season," Ford said. "One game we would play a great game and the next we would look sloppy. We need to step up our play and maintain it, which will come with more and more experience."

Johns Hopkins will lose no starters next season, which proves to be a great advantage. They will return an older, more experienced line up which hopefully will propel the Blue Jays to the next level.

"Earning a berth in the Eastern Championships is no longer a goal," Ramaley said. "It's an expectation. We won't settle next year for anything less than winning a few games at Easterns."

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**SUMMER INTERNS**

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FILE PHOTO  
Women's Basketball overcame No. 17 Marymount with a 73-49 victory.**W.B-ball improves ranking to No. 20**

stopped. After going ahead 18-2, the Jays carried a 32-10 lead into half-time. Little changed after the half-time, however, as the Blue Jays opened the third quarter with a 23-3 scoring run to take a commanding 55-13 lead. Sumser added nine points while Kincaid joined Myers as each player scored eight points.

At any time, anybody could step up and contribute to make a big play.

—MICHELLE KINCAID

The Jays followed their blowout win against Villa Julie with an even more impressive win over No. 17 Marymount 73-49. Marymount stayed close early in the game but fell behind for good before halftime. Only leading by three points, the Jays went on a 17-5 scoring run to lead 38-23 at

the half.

Stepler provided a spark for the Jays by scoring 12 points but also recording nine assists. Darling led the team with 18 points while Myers contributed 13 points. Once again, the Blue Jays were proficient in spreading the ball around to different players.

"We have a very deep team this year. At any time, anybody could step up and contribute to make a big play," says Kincaid. Now undefeated with a record of 5-0, the Blue Jays are already beginning to earn high accolades. After being ranked No. 25 last week in the D3HOOPS.COM poll last week, Hopkins charged to No. 20 following its blowout victory against No. 17 Marymount.

Currently, Hopkins is the only Centennial Conference school named in the poll. Also, Darling was named this week to the Centennial Conference Honor Roll after amassing 27 points and 15 rebounds against Goucher and Villa Julie last week.

Johns Hopkins will next play Thursday at home against Delaware Valley at 7 p.m. The following Saturday, Hopkins will travel to face DeSales University at 1 p.m.

**Don't be surprised when early favorites falter**

The field of college hoopology is rapidly expanding these days. Every yahoo with ESPN, or at least FOX Sports Net, considers themselves to be an expert. They've already got their field of 64 all lined up and ready to go—they can't wait until March gets here. But let me tell you, it is not that easy. Sure, you pick one decent upset over the course of the season, and you look like a genius. Anyone can claim to have called the outcome of a game. Likewise, anyone

1899.

It's about that time for me to go on a pre-season-rankings-are-meaningless rant. At the start of this week, only three teams in the pre-season top ten—Duke, Illinois and Missouri—were still unbeaten. And then Illinois went and lost to Maryland on Tuesday.

So out of the ten supposedly most invincible teams in the nation, that leaves only two that survived the first two weeks of the season without a loss. And at the same time you've got teams coming out of nowhere to beat these highly ranked teams, like Ball State who knocked off Kansas and UCLA on consecutive nights, only to lose to Duke by a handfull in their third game in three days to a highly ranked opponent.

It's perfectly reasonable to expect a few of the highly-touted teams to fall, and an upset here or there is going to happen. Don't look so shocked when it does. Just because a team is ranked in the top four before the season even starts does not mean they will automatically be participating in the Final Four come March.

Just because a team is ranked in the top four before the season even starts does not mean they will automatically be participating in the Final Four come March.

and in the next few weeks, they play such teams as Indiana State, IPFW (I have no idea what that stands for) and IUPUI (is that even a Division I team?). Their strength of schedule from this point on is not going to help Ball State's RPI, and in turn could hurt their ranking, but they've got their name out there now—everyone knows that they're a very potent team.

Southern California and Temple, who made up the last two spots in the top 25 last week, both got knocked out of the rankings as of Monday despite not playing a game last week. That has to suck.

Indiana got knocked out, too, but at least they lost a game to deserve it. Marquette and Wake Forest joined the ranks of the top 25 teams this week. We'll see how long that lasts.

Oh, and Derek Jeter is hosting Saturday Night Live this week, don't miss it.

—

AD

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can use their brilliant intellect to "predict" an upset. There's not much to lose if you're wrong, and if you're right, you look like Jay Bilas with a half-decent education.

Anyone could have looked at the lineup for the Maui Invitational and through a scientific process that involves a highly elaborate game of rock-paper-scissors said "you know, I'm going to have to go with Ball State. It looks like their week, I can feel it." If you could have told me the region of the country in which Ball State was located before last Monday, I would have been very impressed. Many self-proclaimed experts probably still can't. And me being someone who knows a thing or two about self-proclamation, I do not want there to be any question—Ball State is in Muncie, Indiana, their nickname is the Cardinals and the school was founded in

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# Addition by Contraction

**A** couple of weeks ago, Major League Baseball team owners voted almost unanimously to contract the league by eliminating two teams. The list of possible victims was narrowed down to three cities: Montreal, Miami and Minnesota. The decision to contract has drawn a huge amount of flack from residents of the targeted areas as well as from fans around the league.

But there is no question that contraction is the correct move, even if putting Minnesota on the hit list is not.

This day has been coming for quite sometime.

It is the logical result of the expansion philosophy that was first started in the early 60's, growing to ridiculous heights by the mid 90's.

Baseball's first expansion came in 1962. Prior to the Giants and Dodgers moving to California in 1958, there were no baseball teams west of the Mississippi River. Times were changing in the country, and baseball needed to keep up. The 16-team format, with eight in each league, that had been so reliable and steady for so many years was not cutting it anymore.

The league attempted to catch up by adding two more teams. The New York Mets were created to replace the two National League teams that had fled, and the city of Houston was given the Astros as the "Mississippi" barrier was broken.

Another round of expansion came in 1969 with the creation of the Seattle Pilots, Montreal Expos and San Diego Padres.

All of these additions, along with a couple of others that came after, seemed to make sense.

Each city was able to give a sufficient amount of fan support to their new team and the ones that were unable to do so, like Seattle, lost their club.

After all the expansions were complete, baseball once again found a steady rhythm within its team structure that lasted through the 80's and into the early 90's.

But unable to leave well enough alone, Major League Baseball decided to expand again, putting teams in Denver and Miami, two notoriously big football towns, in 1993. Four years later, Arizona and Tampa also got ball clubs.

On the surface it might seem a little silly to criticize the creation of teams like the Marlins and the Diamondbacks considering that Florida won the World Series in 1997 and the D-Backs were victorious this year. But that fact is truly irrelevant to the debate on contraction.

Everybody is saying that the newer teams have not been competitive enough. In fact, two of the three possible victims were not created

during the new wave of expansion.

The fact that Major League Baseball currently has too many teams is evidenced by two problems that the league faces.

The first problem deals with the quality of play, with special emphasis on pitching.

There have been many theories as to why so many players are now able to hit so many home runs with really high batting averages.

Some people believe that the players are just stronger and better while others say the secret is that the baseball is "juiced."

But the real reason for the offensive surge is that the average Major League pitcher is just not that good anymore. There are too many clueless young hurlers taking the mound in big league stadiums without a real ability to throw or think with consistency.

The overwhelming cause of this decrease in pitching ability is expansion.

Many of these inadequate pitch-

ers because these players will always ask for a prohibitive salary.

Contraction will ameliorate the tremendous gap between the big and small market teams.

The real reason for the offensive surge is that the average Major League pitcher is just not that good anymore.

With fewer teams in existence, the high-priced free agents will have fewer options.

On the flip side, contraction will produce a higher "marquee" player per team available ratio. At some point, teams like Pittsburgh and Milwaukee may be able to acquire the good players and be able to compete with the big boys.

The only matter left is deciding which two of the three possible teams to cut. I think the answer is clear. The Montreal Expos have almost no fan base left. Despite the fact that Montreal has always been a hockey town, in the past the Expos were able to generate a significant following.

But the aforementioned big/small market gap has left the Expos unable to keep any of the studs that their farm system has produced. The result has been one losing season after another and rapidly declining attendance. There is no question that the league should say good-bye to the 'Spos.

Now, if the choice is down to the Twins and the Marlins, there is again no question. The Twins have a rich history from Harmon Killebrew to Kirby Puckett. They have a loyal following in Minnesota. The Marlins have been around for eight years. Granted, they did win a championship in 1997.

Even more harmful to the game than bad pitching is the existence of bad teams that have no hope of becoming good. Teams like the Pirates and Brewers will be forever stuck in baseball's abyss because of one thing, money.

Big market teams like the Yankees and Dodgers are able to generate a tremendous amount of revenue from hundred million dollar television deals.

Because baseball has no salary cap, the giants use their riches to buy the contracts of the best players. The small market teams are unable to keep or sign quality free



**JEREMY M. LIFF**  
COOL, CALM AND  
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ers should be in the minor leagues, developing their craft. Instead, they are at the top level because more teams mean more pitching spots. Contraction will send many of these young hopefuls back to the minors and the quality of pitching will almost certainly improve.

Even more harmful to the game than bad pitching is the existence of bad teams that have no hope of becoming good. Teams like the Pirates and Brewers will be forever stuck in baseball's abyss because of one thing, money.

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But the very next season saw then owner Wayne Huizenga sell-off the entire team in an effort to turn a profit. The gutting of the Marlins was one of the biggest embarrassments that baseball has had to endure over the last 30 years.

Not far behind this is Pro Player Stadium, the "ball park" that the Marlins play in.

Yes, Pro Player was perfectly fine for the likes of Marino and Duper. But I have been there for a baseball game and I can honestly say that the only park that looks less like a baseball field is Wyman Park. So, keep the Twins ... kill the fish.

# Stepping in for injured Eisley, Adams competing admirably



*Men's Basketball has been trying out different lineups to make up for the loss of Eisley.*

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12*

the half, eventually losing 81-69. But Johns Hopkins was able to make adjustments and come together for an impressive 92-86 victory over Roanoke College. Adams had 24 points and 19 rebounds to lead the Blue Jays to a third place finish.

In both the Blue Jays Classic and Trinity Tournament, Adams has been named to the all-tournament teams for his strong, consistent performances.

"The main thing that has been hurting us this season in the loss of Eisley," Kamm said. "But Adams has been able to fill his spot, leading the team in both scoring and rebounding. He is just playing outstanding right now."

Despite scoring over 90 in two games this season, a feat last accomplished in the 1992-93 season, the Blue Jays offensive productivity has been hampered by turnovers.

"A major problem last season was not having a strong outside game," Nelson said. "We were able to improve and shoot better this season, but now we are constantly letting teams back into the game because of turnovers."

The Blue Jays lead the Centennial Conference with 36 three-pointers this season, a large improvement from

[...] Adams has been able to fill his spot, leading the team in both scoring and rebounding. He is just playing outstanding right now.

—BRENDEN KAMM

last season. With the improved outside game, Johns Hopkins hopes to open up the inside game.

Nelson is not too worried about the 2-3 record this season, as he has been trying many different combinations to find a strong lineup that

will compensate for the loss of Eisley.

"With the conference games coming in a week, we need to get a set of strong starters so that we can be competitive," Nelson said. "It's going to be anybody's ball game this season, and I think we have the right ingredients for a great season."

Johns Hopkins is currently ranked no. 3 in the West Division according to preseason polls. Ahead of the Blue Jays are its two main rivals, top-ranked Franklin & Marshall and No. 2 Gettysburg. Both are teams that will challenge Johns Hopkins for the top spot in the Centennial Conference and an NCAA tournament berth.

The Blue Jays will next travel to compete against Elizabethtown today and will face Haverford in its first conference game Dec. 1.

"Every game that we are playing, there is definitely improvement in the team chemistry and the overall play of each player," Kamm said.

"Our main goal is to win the conference, so as we get healthier and play more together, I don't see any problem reaching our goal."

# Women's Fencing shows promise

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12*

victories against Massachusetts 17-10, Dartmouth 22-5 and New Hampshire 18-9.

Dan Rosenthal and Daniel Frank both had good showings in foil with 11-3 records. Bouloubasis also went 14-1 in epee.

Chen also sees a closely knit team, "I'm really glad to see camaraderie developing within the team." The Men's Fencing team is off until Jan. 5,

when they will play against former Hopkins' fencers in their annual

Under the guidance of our new coach, James Murray, all of us are very excited about this season.

—ALLISON BARKER

Alumni Competition.

The women's season has just begun, as they participated in the annual Penn State Garret Open. Georgiana Lee finished 10th, and Joy Wu finished a strong 19th in epee, while in sabre Allison Barker finished 11th.

Wu sees a very strong team this year, "In addition to our experienced fencers, we have many newcomers who are very enthusiastic about the sport. Under the guidance of our new coach, James Murray, all of us are very excited about this season, which is looking very promising."

The women's fencing team will be in action again on Dec. 2 at Fairleigh Dickinson.

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During the Second World War, the Japanese were known to shout, "To hell with Babe Ruth" while engaging American forces.

# SPORTS

## Fencing cruises by Tufts, Dartmouth

BY SAGAR THAKER  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

The only way to describe the Johns Hopkins Mens and Womens Fencing teams seasons is promising. The way they have started this season has done nothing but fortify their position among other colleges. The Men's season began at the Temple Open where many finished with great rankings.

Hopkins hosted St. Johns, Yeshiva and Virginia Tech and also initiated its winning streak. They beat Virginia Tech, 18-9, St. Johns (MD), 21-6 and Yeshiva, 22-5. Freshman Brian Bische and sophomore Matt Boulouba were perfect in their matches, 8-0 with the foil and epee respectively. In the



Not only are the experienced fencers doing well, freshman James Chen understands that there is also potential with the new fencers thanks to the others' guidance.

Chen predicts, "Under the supervision of our jocular Coach Oles, el

I believe that the freshmen fencers will carve out a niche of their own in Hopkins' fencing tradition.

—JAMES CHEN

Captain Schwerzmann and the returning varsity, I believe that the freshmen fencers will carve out a niche of their own in Hopkins' fencing tradition."

Hopkins looked to the Tufts Invitational to continue their success, where they defeated Tufts 14-13. After that close match, they beat Sacred Heart with a 27-0 victory thanks to a Sacred Heart forfeit. Their next opponent was Boston College, who delivered the Blue Jays their first loss of the year 11-16.

Their schedule took them to New Hampshire, where they earned three

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

sabre, Hopkins' Ryan Schwerzmann was their top performer with a 7-2 record.

MIKE FISCHER/NEWS-Letter

Water Polo ended a outstanding season with a first round loss to Navy.

## A look back on Water Polo's memorable year

BY ERIC TAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

With one minute left in its season, the Johns Hopkins Water Polo team found itself in the same situation it was in last year, playing for seventh place against Bucknell. Instead of being blown out 11-4, the Blue Jays were close enough to steal the game, down 7-6, but they needed an opportunity.

That opportunity came after Johns Hopkins' final timeout when junior co-captain driver Ryan Ford was able to draw an ejection off his Bison defender. Playing a man-up, the Blue Jays were able to execute offensively, passing smoothly and freeing up freshman utility James Singleton for the game-tying goal.

But the Bisons would prove too much for Johns Hopkins (15-19) defeating them 9-7 in overtime. The loss put the Blue Jays in eighth place for the third consecutive year at the Collegiate Water Polo Association Eastern Division Championships in Princeton, NJ Nov. 17-18.

"Bucknell is a team that we knew we could beat, having gone 3-2 against them before the tournament," junior co-captain driver Paul Ramaley said. "We just missed lots of shots early and we had to play catch up the whole game."

In the first game of the tournament, Johns Hopkins lost to Queens College 12-7. Queens was able to score three

easy counter-goals early, causing the Blue Jays to play catch up throughout the game. Despite being down at the half, Johns Hopkins was able to get three quick goals to open up the third period, but the Blue Jays found itself

[...] when we found out that we would face Navy, we were all a little discouraged [...] we didn't come to play.

—PAUL RAMALEY

too overmatched in the end.

"We played pretty well against Queens," Ford said. "We almost beat them earlier in the season, losing 10-9, but this time we just couldn't stop the counter-goals. Once they get the early goals, they are very hard to beat."

With the loss, Johns Hopkins found itself matched against Navy, a team that has defeated the Blue Jays in its previous two meetings. And this meeting was no different, as they defeated Johns Hopkins handily 15-5.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

## M.B-ball wins two despite injuries

BY ERIC TAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

In the absence of senior co-captain forward Matthew Easley, the Johns Hopkins all-time shot blocker, it looked like a NCAA Division III Championship berth would be asking too much for the Blue Jays, but junior co-captain forward Steve Adams had other plans. Adams strong play helped to lead Johns Hopkins to a 2-3 record and earned him a spot on the Centennial Conference Honor Roll.

In the five games this season, Adams leads the Blue Jays with 17.6 points per game and 9.2 rebounds per game, with two double-doubles and a career high 19 rebounds in a win against Roanoke.

The Blue Jays opened the 2001-02 season falling to Greensboro College, 66-61 in the Blue Jay Classic Nov. 16-17. Adams led Johns Hopkins with 23 points and seven rebounds, and

HOME  
Hopkins  
VISITOR  
Greensboro College  
  
HOME  
Hopkins  
VISITOR  
Case Western Reserve  
  
HOME  
Hopkins  
VISITOR  
Case Western Reserve



Junior Steve Adams has stepped up his game to fill in for injured senior forward Matthew Easley.

guard Dan Burruss added 10 and 13 points respectively. Junior co-captain

Easley has been a big factor since he has been here and has improved every year. Losing him has set us back a little this season.

—HEAD COACH BILL NELSON

tain point guard Brenden Kamm added five assists in the victory. Johns

Hopkins controlled the game, never letting the lead get below 15 points.

After the victory, the Blue Jays faced the team from Goucher, losing 74-66 Nov. 20 in a game plagued by fouls. Easley made his return to the starting lineup, leading Johns Hopkins with 17 points and Burruss added 10 points, but it was not enough to stop a late surge by Goucher. The Blue Jays led at the half 31-29 but were broken down defensively, being outscored 45-35 in the second half.

Next the Blue Jays went to Trinity College in Texas to compete in the Trinity Tournament Nov. 24-25, where they went 1-1. In the first game, Johns Hopkins was outplayed by a stronger and faster Otterbein team. Despite strong showings from Adams, Kamm and Kreider who scored 19, 16 and 14, respectively, the Blue Jays found themselves down by 10 at

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

junior guard Jay Kreider finished with 11 points. Despite a close game with the Greensboro up by only two at the half, 34-32, the Blue Jays were unable to get no closer than 58-55 in the final two minutes.

Despite the loss in the season opener, Johns Hopkins was able to defeat Case-Western Reserve, 93-67 in the second match of the tournament. Adams again led the Blue Jays with 22 points and 10 rebounds while juniors forward Mike Blaine and

## Women's Basketball perfect so far at 5-0



Women's Basketball has started the season 5-0 for the fourth time in their last five seasons.

BY ERIC RIDGE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

The Johns Hopkins Womens Basketball team will look to blend veteran experience with new talent as they attempt to make their mark this year full of high expectations and promises. Already, the Blue Jays have given fans a reason to be very optimistic. They have raced to a 5-0 start for the fourth time in the last five seasons, are ranked among the top 25 teams in Division III and welcome the addition of a highly touted transfer student at center.

Indeed, if the first several games of this season serve as any indication, the Blue Jays have a lot to look forward to. Many of the team's hopes rest on the capable shoulders of three returning starters, 11 returning letter winners and transfer junior center Kathy Darling.

Darling will join the established backcourt consisting of juniors Ashley Shepler and Lauren Martin, both of whom started last season. Trista Snyder, who plays the third guard/small forward position is the team's third returning starter. Darling, who transferred from Rowan, is expected

to have a major impact for the Blue Jays this season.

Last year she led Rowan in scoring

We are setting our sights on winning the Centennial Conf. Championship this year. We would also like to advance far into the NCAA tournament.

—MICHELLE KINCAID

ing, rebounding and field goal percentage while propelling the team to a 17-8 record.

Darling's new Hopkins teammates have already learned to appreciate her talents. "She is one of the steadiest players and one of the hardest workers I have ever played with," said se-

nior guard Michelle Kincaid.

With such high expectations for the team, players say there is no shortage of goals set for this season. "We are setting our sights on winning the Centennial Conference Championship this year. We would also like to advance far into the NCAA tournament," said Kincaid.

The Blue Jays took the first steps towards accomplishing their goal when they began their season by competing in the 12th Annual Blue Jay Invitational basketball tournament.

In the first game of the year, Hopkins dominated the Washington & Jefferson Presidents by a score of 85-58 behind Darling's strong play, who scored 23 points and grabbed six rebounds en route to the win.

The game was close through much of the first half until the Blue Jays went on a 21-12 run in the last six minutes of the second quarter to take a 15-point halftime lead. From there, the Jays cruised to the victory and never allowed the Presidents to get within 13 points of them.

In addition to Darling, Maureen Myers, who played in every game last year, added 12 points, four steals and five rebounds to help send the Blue

Jays to the championship game.

In that game, the Hopkins faced Chowan College in a contest that was one-sided from the start. The Jays raced to an 18-0 lead and never looked back, increasing their lead to 46-15 at the half before ultimately defeating Chowan by a score of 70-36.

Darling led the team with 18 points and nine rebounds. The Rowan transfer student was also named tournament Most Valuable Player. Once again, Myers also proved a key part of the Blue Jays offense, scoring nine points, four assists and four steals in the victory.

Now, after winning the Blue Jay tournament, Hopkins has continued to build on its early success.

In perhaps the most impressive feat in this young season, the team scored 100 points for the first time in school history against Goucher College last Tuesday. Hopkins went on to win the game by a score of 104-38 as six players scored in double figures.

Sophomore forward Trista Snyder scored 18 points and pulled down seven rebounds while Darling scored 13 and senior forwards Jennifer Butterwe and Heidi Sumser each scored 12 points. Myers and freshman forward Ashanna Randall each scored ten points. For the second straight game, Hopkins opened with an 18-point lead and never allowed their opponent to close the gap. The Jays led 56-22 at the half and outscored Goucher 48-16 in the second half.

The school record for most points scored in a game had been previously set during the 1990-91 season when the Jays beat Widener 97-67. The record was tied during the 1993-94 season with a 97-23 Blue Jay win over Roger Williams.

After their record-breaking victory, there proved no rest for the weary as the Blue Jays' schedule called for them to play games on Sunday and Monday this past week.

On Sunday, Hopkins easily defeated Villa Julie 78-23 behind the dominant play of Darling, who scored 14 points and grabbed eight rebounds on the night. Once again, the Jays jumped ahead of their opponent by a large margin and could not be

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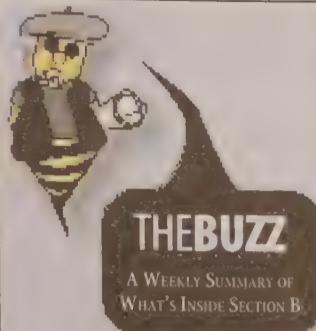
# The B Section

FEATURES, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, AND MORE! • NOVEMBER 29, 2001

THE JOHNS HOPKINS  
NEWS-LETTER

"Dutch is a  
throat disease,  
not a language."

—Political Science Professor  
Richard Katz



## Stud poker meets AD&D in Magic

BY CHARBEL BARAKAT  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Magic: The Gathering, a card game mixing elements of Dungeons & Dragons, Stratego and a bad drug habit, emerged in recent years from its West Coast cult following and became arguably the world's most popular and most profitable fantasy game.

As with all the classic pastimes, gameplay is easy to learn but deceptively complex and difficult to master. Each player constructs a deck of at least 60 cards, each representing a type of spell that may be cast against one's opponents. Players can direct fireballs, summon goblins and even counter their opponent's spells in an attempt to deal damage to their enemies. When a player's life total is reduced to zero, he is declared dead and the game is over.

Players may draw their spells from five "colors," each of which represents its own particular brand of magic and with unique powers at its disposal. The colors are black, green, red, white, and blue. Decks are not limited to any number or combination of colors; in fact, most advanced players prefer to draw from the strengths of multiple colors when building competitive decks. Occasionally, decks utilizing all five colors appear but aren't common due to the diffi-

culty of obtaining enough "mana" of each color to be effective.

Land cards are used to extract mana (pronounced "man-nah"), essentially the currency with which spells are paid for. Swamps give you black mana, forests give you green, mountains spew forth red mana, plains grant white mana and islands issue forth blue mana. Only one land card may be played each turn, thus limiting a player's

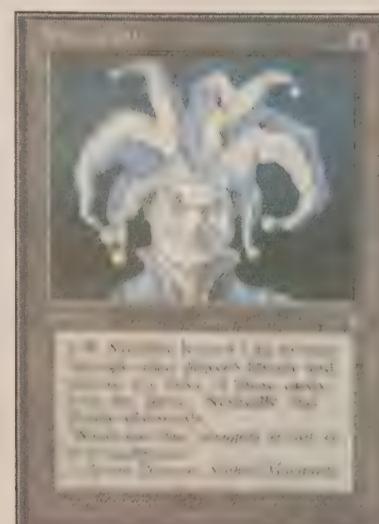
green's unique ability to acquire great amounts of mana early on in the game make it a force in the game, but its lack of game-breaking spells usually relegate green cards to a supporting role in tournament-level decks.

Red spellcasters use the strength of fire and earth to subdue their opponents. Its direct damage spells are easily the most cost-effective and annoying (if also simple-minded) spells in the game, damaging opponents without warning. Fireballs and lightning bolts can turn games around in moments with little risk to their casters. Unfortunately, red is a notoriously slow developing color as well.

White is the color of all that's good and holy in the world. White spellcasters can summon hordes of "weenies," weak but cheap to cast creatures (soldiers and knights, mostly) that can overwhelm opponents by sheer mass. By nature, it's a defensive color, emphasizing healing and protection over unrelenting force. Some white spells, like "Wrath of God" and "Armageddon," are among the game's most powerful, wiping out all cards of a specific type in one shot. Players quickly learn the value of trading one card of your own for three to four times as many of your opponents. As such, white is widely thought to be the strongest of the colors.

Blue cards can be spectacularly strong as well. It has at its disposal the power of water, wind and time, a devastating combination. In the game's earliest versions, blue cards allowed players to draw nearly unlimited cards and even take extra turns. When clever players learned to abuse these cards, they were quickly removed from the standard card sets. Cards like "Ancestral Recall" and "Time Walk" are among the most sought-after, at times demanding over \$200 for mint copies.

Though Blue's strength has been diminished somewhat in recent years, it retains the sole ability to "counter" opponents' spells and to take control of them as well. It is an extremely reactive color and requires a great deal of skill to be played effectively, but decks heavy on blue have long dominated tournament play.



Once a highly sought-after card, rule changes have weakened "Jester's Cap."

ability to cast costlier, more powerful spells until later in the game. Much of the game's strategy is spent attempting to circumvent this limitation, thus creating an early power disadvantage.

Black represents death and treachery; its spells summon zombies, assassins and cause opponents to discard valuable cards from their hands. Black spells can often grant great strength, but at a high cost. Certain creatures, like the "Lord of the Pit" and "Abyssal Horror," are immensely strong but cause as much harm to you as your opponents. That's part of the bargain when you mess with evil.

Green stands for nature's ancient strength. All the denizens of the forest and the elemental powers of Mother Earth are at a green spellcaster's fingertips. Powerful creatures and

abilities are often granted great strength, but at a high cost. Certain creatures, like the "Lord of the Pit" and "Abyssal Horror," are immensely strong but cause as much harm to you as your opponents. That's part of the bargain when you mess with evil.

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COURTESY OF WIZARDS OF THE COAST



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"Armageddon" is not only a very powerful card, but an example of fine art.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

### FOCUS

A bonafide magician breaks his oath of silence and reveals the secrets of his trade to the News-Letter. Check the front page next week for his obituary. • B2

### FEATURES

Want to get off campus? Make the short trip to Alexandria, Va. We've also got the dish on DVD players and JHU's new philosophy journal, *Prometheus*. • B3

Learn how to furnish your apartment for less, and the top 10 things to do before the drudgery of finals. There's also a great list of the best pranks to pull on your friends. • B4

Find out how to get gifts for the ones you love for less. Also, check out how students campaign in Argentina. • B5

Who's hot? Check out these two gorgeous students. They are the next up to be crowned the Hottest at Hopkins. • B6

### A & E

Brad Pitt and Robert Redford make *Spy Game* thrilling for women, young and old alike. A new column, "Ghetto Fabulous," debuts while Matt O'Brien presents a top 10 music video list in his column, "On the Way to the Bus." • B7

Baltimore Opera Company's successful *Tosca* should leave opera fans looking forward to *The Magic Flute*. Matt Sekerke reviews the latest from Dave Holland's quintet and Harry Potter enchanting the movie charts. • B8

### CALENDAR

The holiday season is finally here! See this week's events for some great ideas to start off the holidays with cheer. • B10-11



COURTESY OF WIZARDS OF THE COAST

Is that Virgil and Dante? Looks like hell.

movie franchise, which has already outsold *Episode I: The Phantom Menace*.

This critic is thrilled to announce that Columbus did far more than "get it right"; he created a top-notch movie which entertains even those who have not read the book. Though the movie sticks diligently to the book's plotline, right down to minute details in the setting, the two-and-a-half-hour movie manages not to alienate the uninformed moviegoer, assuming no prior exposure to the story.

For those few remaining individuals who are unfamiliar with Harry's adventures, I'll offer a brief plot summary. Harry is an orphan raised begrudgingly by his insufferable relatives, the Dursleys. One day his fate changes when he is whisked away to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry is more than the average pre-teen wizard; he is the only one to have survived being attacked by Voldemort, a villain so evil that most timidly refer to him as "You Know Who." Together with his friends Ron and

Hermione, he discovers that You Know Who is attacking Hogwarts, and the three set out through grave peril in an attempt to save the school.

Columbus indeed works magic with the special effects. Even mere

Columbus indeed works magic with the special effects.

Muggles (non-wizards) will be dazzled by the grandeur of Hogwarts, a stunning castle with countless secret passages and hidden surprises. Special effects transform the ever-watchful Professor McGonagall smoothly into her alter ego, a cat. A terrifying, life-size chess game near the end is a technical masterpiece. Most impressive is the Quidditch match, a game played in the air on broomsticks. The scene seems entirely real, and it brings to life a part of the book that I had a difficult time visual-

izing in my imagination.

The real magic in the movie doesn't come from computer effects and Animatronics, however; it is the actors themselves who cast a spell over the audience. Rowling was wise to require that unknown actors be cast as the famous trio. It allows for complete suspension of disbelief as the viewer easily assimilates the actors with their respective characters. As Harry, Daniel Radcliffe nails his daunting role, endearing himself from the start. Rupert Grint (Ron) is a perfect match for his impish character, and Emma Watson, as Hermione, pulls off her know-it-all personality without being too annoying. All three children perform well beyond expectation for amateurs.

Other parts are also well-cast. Dame Maggie Smith (*Tea with Mussolini*) shines again as McGonagall, a strict but caring professor. As slimy and presumably evil Professor Snape, Alan Rickman (*Dogma*) fits the part perfectly, an exact replica of what I had imagined when reading. Rob Coltrane (*From Hell*) performs

well as the lovable oaf, Hagrid.

To be sure, the celluloid adaptation does fall short of the book. However grand Hogwarts may seem on the screen, it could never match the elegance of its imagined counterpart. The scary parts, though shocking enough to distress young children, did not send chills down my spine the way the book did. At the movie, the viewer must sit through the entire story for nearly three hours, with no

a franchise of sorts. By running "professional" tournaments with big prizes that are only open to players playing with the most recently available cards, Wizards ensures that the hardcore Magic players keep coming back for more. Provided that they bring their wallets with them, of course.

The game's commercial success is unparalleled in the fantasy genre. Magic has quickly become a multibillion-dollar industry. Awash with success, Wizards of the Coast bought TSR, Inc., the makers of Dungeons & Dragons in 1998, a move comparable to Microsoft buying out IBM. Its retail stores have appeared in malls across the country, opening up access to whole new markets and regions full of eager young males with allowances to burn. Even in the current recession, prospects look good for Magic's continued success.

Excellent artwork, easy-to-learn gameplay, a loyal fan base and very high replay ability ensure that Magic won't follow *Pokémon* cards and all the rest into post-fad obscurity. Its national championships are currently broadcast on ESPN2, but don't be surprised if this simple card game of wizards and monsters appears on the networks sometime soon. As costly a hobby as it might be, for many, the high-speed excitement and mental challenge Magic offers is entirely worth it.

## Harry Potter movie is a spellbinding success

BY COURTNEY RICE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

It was with a mixture of ecstatic anticipation and mild trepidation that I waited for the lights to dim in the movie theater. I've been a Harry Potter fan since the first day I picked up the exceedingly talented J.K. Rowling's debut novel, the first in the fantasy series that has transformed reading into magic for millions of children of all ages. Would the movie come close to doing justice to my beloved sorcerer's adventures?

One would hope that the Warner Brothers production studios would manage to create a reasonable facsimile of the novel. After all, Director Chris Columbus worked closely with Rowling in all stages of production. She helped choose the cast, approved the script and offered criticism about the setting and staging throughout. Millions were counting on Columbus to get it right — millions of young fans who already had a clear idea of what the movie should look like and millions of dollars in potential profit from the

movie franchise, which has already outsold *Episode I: The Phantom Menace*.

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Other parts are also well-cast. Dame Maggie Smith (*Tea with Mussolini*) shines again as McGonagall, a strict but caring professor. As slimy and presumably evil Professor Snape, Alan Rickman (*Dogma*) fits the part perfectly, an exact replica of what I had imagined when reading. Rob Coltrane (*From Hell*) performs



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) charms with his message owl, Hedwig.

well as the lovable oaf, Hagrid. To be sure, the celluloid adaptation does fall short of the book. However grand Hogwarts may seem on the screen, it could never match the elegance of its imagined counterpart. The scary parts, though shocking enough to distress young children, did not send chills down my spine the way the book did. At the movie, the viewer must sit through the entire story for nearly three hours, with no

breaks and no chance to look back at foreshadowing and favorite passages. As a movie in and of itself, however, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* is sheer brilliance. It captivates the audience from beginning to end, a visually stunning masterpiece for all ages. This movie is not to be missed. I only hope it will inspire many more to open their imaginations to Rowling's phenomenal books.

# MAGICAL FOCUS

## Addicted to Potter

BY MEGAN MENTREK  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Below the fun illustrations on each cover of the four Harry Potter books should be a disclaimer to the reader: Do NOT even THINK of purchasing this book if you have anything important to do in the next four days of your life. Last year I made the tragic mistake of picking up Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone in the middle of the finals period as a little bit of light reading. What quickly developed was a brutal fight between the pull of Hogwarts and Harry's world and my looming and ever-depressing history final. Fifty dollars and the four books later, Harry won the fight by a landslide as I pushed the studying back chapter by chapter of *Harry Potter*.

Those of you who have joyously opened a Harry Potter book know exactly what I'm talking about. Upon completion of book number two at 3 a.m., you curse Barnes and Nobles for not being open 24 hours a day so that you can proceed to book number three. For those of you who denied yourselves the gift of a little Harry, I can already hear your measly claims, "Oh, it's a fad!" or "Isn't that, like, for children?" Speaking with probably half the literate world behind me, you're just wrong!

I have to admit that I too resisted opening one. Wallowing in my intellectual snobbery, compliments of one too many Johns Hopkins political economy classes, I too thought that I was above Harry Potter. It was not until my mother, the literary snob of them all, read them that I decided to succumb. I was sold.

So now all you skeptics are asking, why are they so great then? In a cop-out answer, well, there's just something about Harry. From the moment you step into Number 4 Privet Drive, you are mesmerized and enchanted.

After just a page, the book is simply irresistible. No book has ever hooked me in from the first paragraph of book one to the final sentence of book four as thoroughly as Harry has. Perhaps it's the detail with which J.K. Rowling weaves her tale of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and the adventures of Harry, Ron and Hermione. You can taste Bertie Bott's Every-Flavor Beans as Harry and Ron anxiously munch away dreading the selection of a vomit-flavored bean, you can smell it when one of Snape's potion experiments goes South, and you literally sit on the edge of your seat waiting for conclusion of the Quidditch matches that come perilously close to letting Slytherin win. It could be the quirky characters that J.K. introduces and develops in the most intriguing ways. Or maybe it's the utter inventiveness of the stories she tells like none other.

Harry Potter whiskers you away so completely that you can entirely forget about the surreal world of finals and end of semester papers just for a few hours. Even surrounded by the tangible stress that pervades the MSE, you can feel like you too attend Hogwarts where the stress is more about avoiding being turned into stone or falling off your broomstick than studying genetics. Which would you choose? For those of us whose imaginations have gotten a little rusty as jobs, internships, and the like have pushed us dangerously close to becoming adults, Harry Potter is a refreshing return to childhood when wizards and dragons did roam the world.

So give yourself a break, spring for the \$7 copy of book one, and let J.K. Rowling spin her charming story around you for just a few hours. I would be shocked if afterwards you didn't just wish you had an owl instead of dreary old e-mail to post your letters.

## Is that really a rabbit in your pants?

BY MEPHISTO SMITH  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Writing this could very likely get me killed. The people I'm messing with have been known to make people disappear without hesitation. Heck, Copperfield even did it to Lady Liberty.

But the truth has to be told. Whatever the personal costs may be, the power of illusion deserves to be shared.

The following feats of daring-do (or magic tricks, as you laymen call them) are not only guaranteed to astound friends and family but incredibly easy to learn and perform.

While they may not help you win friends and influence people, they should provide hours (okay, minutes) of all-purpose entertainment. Enjoy.

### "COLOR DIVINATION"

Although this is one of the first tricks I performed for my friends and family when I was a youngster, it's one that I still perform from time to time and find that it works well for audiences of all ages. It's really quite simple to do, and the only requirement is an ordinary box of wax crayons.

The magician stands with his back to the audience as he instructs one of them to open a box of crayons, remove one and note its color. He holds his hands behind his back and has the audience member place the crayon into one of his upturned palms. Holding the crayons behind his back, he turns to face the audience and explain that you actually intend to divide the crayon's color by the sense of touch.

As you say this, scrape the thumbnail of the hand holding the crayon across its waxed end, thereby forcing a small amount of wax to lodge under the nail. Transfer the crayon to the other hand and bring the one with the colored wax under the nail. Touch it to your forehead. As your hand travels past your face secretly catch a glimpse of the color. As soon as you glimpse the color, close your eyes and pretend to be in deep thought as if you were really trying to divine the color. All that remains is for you to name the color and bring forth the crayon for verification.

The most important aspect of this trick is its performance. When attempting to divine the crayon's color, you must act as though you really have the ability to do so. If you believe that you can divine the color, so will your audience. Just sell it, baby.

### "THE 21 CARD TRICK"

Even though this is probably the most famous self-working card trick in existence, it's still a great puzzler and a lot of fun to do.

The magician deals three rows of cards onto a table. Each row contains seven cards. An audience member is asked to locate the thought of selection.

Shuffle the deck and begin by dealing three cards, face-up, in a row from left to right. Deal another three cards on top of the first three. In doing so, be sure to overlap them so you can



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**This here is another crazy-ass magician named Harry. Gotta love it!**

still see a portion of the underlying card's faces. Continue dealing in this manner until you have three rows with seven cards in each row.

Ask a nearby chum to think of any of the cards on the table and then, without telling you its name, have them indicate the row that contains the mentally selected card. Gather up one of the two rows that doesn't contain his card. It is important that you do this in a manner that does not alter the position of any of the cards. Gather the row containing the audience member's card in the same manner and add it onto the top of the first gathered pile. Gather the remaining row of cards and add it onto the top of the other two. This will center the pile containing the mentally selected card between the other two.

Close your eyes as if you're actually trying to read his mind. After a moment open them and say, "I'm having some difficulty, I'm not getting anything. You're going to have to help me. I'll turn my back, and while my back is turned I want you to place the hand holding the coin you're thinking of, against your forehead like this." Demonstrate by holding your fist against your forehead. Turn your back and say, "All right place the hand containing the coin you're thinking of against your forehead. Have you done that? Good. Now hold it there and concentrate on the coin. Concentrate, trying to visualize it in your mind's eye."

Pause for a moment and then say, "All right, I think I've got it. Please take your hand from your forehead and place it alongside the one holding the other coin. Have you done that? Good. Then it's all right for me to turn around." Turn to face him and, as you do, glance at his hands. One will be considerably lighter in color than the other. The hand he held up against his forehead will be much lighter due to the fact that the blood has rushed out of it.

Do not stare at his hands—a cursory glance is all that is needed. Instead, look directly into his eyes and dramatically name the coin he's been concentrating on. If his right hand is lighter, it's the dime. If his left is lighter, it's the penny.

### "OUT TO LUNCH"

This is a wonderful mind reading effect that can be performed for a very large audience. All the necessary requirements to make it happen can easily be found in your kitchen.

The magician holds up a paper shopping bag which is sealed by a simple fold at the top. He explains that the bag contains a vegetable which is going to be used in a mind reading experiment.

He sets the bag aside as he asks several members of the audience to call out the names of various veg-

tables. As each vegetable is named, it is written on a slip of paper and the paper is folded and placed into a glass or bowl. After eight or ten slips of paper have been deposited in the container, the magician invites an audience member to reach into it and remove one of the slips.

The audience member is asked to unfold the paper and read aloud the name of the randomly chosen vegetable. He opens the paper and says, "Tomato." The magician has him open the bag to discover, much to his surprise, that it contains a tomato.

This trick requires a shopping bag, a vegetable and in this case a tomato, although you may use any vegetable, several small slips of paper, a pen or pencil and a glass or bowl to act as a container. Place the vegetable in the bag, seal it with a fold and you're ready to perform.

Hold up the bag and explain that it contains a vegetable that will be used as a prediction. Ask several audience members to call out the name of a vegetable. As each vegetable is called, you apparently write its name on a slip of paper. What you really do is write the word tomato on every slip

The people I'm  
messing with have  
been known to make  
people disappear  
without hesitation.  
Heck, Copperfield  
even did it to Lady  
Liberty.

of paper. Needless to say, it is important that you do not let anyone see what you actually write. Since the audience has no reason to think that you're writing the same thing on each slip, they will assume you're writing the name of each vegetable as it's called out. The slips are dropped into your container and mixed-up.

Offer the container to an audience member, saying, "Reach inside, choose one of the slips of paper and, when you've done that, open it and read it aloud. After he names the vegetable, have him open the bag and remove the tomato to confirm that you have correctly predicted exactly what vegetable would be chosen.

And that's just the basics, my little humanoids. Start here, and if you prove adept, seek out the advice of an experienced magician. If you're lucky, he or she might just teach you a thing or two.

Just remember this. Often the difference between a convincing trick and a spectacular failure is not a matter of physical dexterity, but of showmanship. If you believe it's real, so will your audience. With that, go forth and conjure.

## Online role-playing games thrill and challenge

BY JEREMIAH CRIM  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

*You signal for your party to halt as a dark, cloaked figure emerges from the woods ahead. Without a word, he raises both arms, and the parched ground of the northern plain begins to rumble, knocking two of your companions off-balance. As you steady yourself, the earth between you and the stranger begins to rise, taking on the form of a giant,*

*twenty-foot tall lizard that immediately charges your position. You order three horsemen forward to intercept the creature, but before they can move, three bolts of lightning from the stranger's hand knock them to the ground.*

Welcome to the world of fantasy, where small bands of adventurers battle mystical creatures and evil sorcerers, usually while questing to find some ancient artifact or trying to destroy an evil warlord whose minions have been plaguing their homeland. These mystic realms are often the subject of books and movies, as well as the fantasies of countless school-age children who dream of something more interesting than the monotony of their daily classes.

As these children dream of facing dangerous foes in far-off lands, many

realize that they do have one powerful device that no wizard could ever hope for — a computer. And long before the Internet became a household term (remember using your 1200 baud modem to log on to the local bulletin board service?), computer programmers created text-based adventure games to try to simulate the excitement of living in a fantasy realm.

To interact with the "world" of an online role-playing game (RPG), players type in simple commands such as "move north," "look under rock," "wield bone dagger" and "attack ogre" that control the actions of characters that they have created. The world itself is a series of "rooms" — think of it as a checkerboard-like layout of which you can only see one square at a time. On entering the game or moving to a new room, the player is presented with a description of the room they are in, including a list of possible exits and the other items and creatures in the room.

Each character has a certain number of "hitpoints" — the amount of damage they can receive before being killed — and "mana points" — the amount of magic they can cast before waiting for it to regenerate. These attributes can be augmented by certain types of equipment and usually in-

crease every time a player gains a certain amount of experience points, which are awarded for fighting against computer-controlled monsters ("mobs") and other players. Thus, older characters who have better equipment are much more dangerous adversaries than those who have just started playing the game.

Battles are usually run with a round-based system: each round, every character and mob involved in the fight is allowed one attack. Rounds occur every certain number of seconds (usually just a couple), unlike in single-player games like Heroes of Might and Magic or card games like Magic: The Gathering, in which the computer doesn't wait for each player to decide what to do and finish his/her turn. Instead, it automatically forces every participant in the fight to try to hit their adversary. The damage inflicted by a player's attack (if any) depends on the random roll of a virtual pair of dice, which is also calculated automatically by the computer.

But fights aren't totally automated. The number of damage points inflicted, like the number of hitpoints or mana points a character has, can be augmented by the character's equipment. And in addition to their one attack per round, players can also perform actions such as casting spells

or, more importantly, trying to flee the battle, though the computer limits how many times per round this can be done. And even without the computer's limits, players can only cast spells as quickly as they can type them in, so a good typing speed becomes nearly as important as good equipment.

So what's the point of it all? How does one "win" a game like this? Many online RPGs allow players to quest for "immortality" by gaining a certain number of experience points. Some players also find it enjoyable to prevent others from gaining immortality by killing them — when characters "die," they can continue playing but lose a large amount of experience, as well as all of their equipment. But whatever a certain player's goal is, online RPGs offer participants the chance to simulate many of the adventures that they dreamed of as children — exploring exotic lands, collecting strange artifacts and engaging in "dangerous" battles with mystical creatures. And, of course, players once again have something that our legendary heroes could only dream of — the ability to leave the dangerous fantasy world behind for a simple, boring existence by simply exiting the game.

For a list of online RPGs, visit <http://www.mudconnect.com>.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.K12.NF.CA](http://WWW.K12.NF.CA)

**Flying into our hearts and ruining our GPAs. Harry's been a busy boy.**

## Real magic not far

**A** wise and extremely handsome professor of mine (at Hopkins!) complained that the problem with our generation is that we've stopped believing in magic. This professor smiles dreamily at the sight of dying leaves clinging to aching branches at the end of autumn, bracing for the onslaught of winter, because through his color-blind eyes, he sees the crumpling brown leaves in flaming hues of red and orange.

That's magical to me. It's enough for me to fall in love with him (from afar, of course). Love is magical, too, isn't it?

When jaded citizens of the human race proclaim their disbelief in magic, it's like saying they don't enjoy music. In their sad ignorance, cynics reject all things magical and fantastic that thrive in our imaginations.

But what they don't realize is that magic is a metaphor for our hopes, our beliefs, our dreams and our appreciation for beauty. The "Magic of Disney" doesn't refer to fairy dust or magic wands — it speaks of its ability to smooth out the complications of reality into the simple innocence we wish life had. If only we could be awakened to true love with a kiss. If only.

And what of the magic of mystery? Remember when the question of what grass eats became ever so much less interesting the day you found out about photosynthesis? Remember when the gem-blue sky suddenly changed into a mere scattering of blue wavelengths from the sun? Children use magic to explain all that baffles them in the world — adults use religion. Where's the differentiation? For all my years of searching, I could never

**KATHY CHEUNG  
FRANKWEILER'S  
FILES**

conjure an explanation for that. On the flip side, there's the magic of discovery. The Magic School Bus can shrink itself to the size of a red blood cell, and can rocket onto the surface of the moon. How else could we learn about those courageous white blood cells and the moon that isn't all that yummy, sliced on crackers? We can't actually go to those places in a bus (duh), but our imaginations could, and being able to travel somewhere without physically being there is magical, wouldn't you agree?

It makes evil conquerable. If we could melt everyone who wished to do us harm with a bucket of water, we would. If we could all be back in the comfort of our beds after a bad day by putting on some ruby slippers and saying the magic words, we would. While it's never that simple, it gives us hope that it's possible. It reminds us not to forget that it's possible for good to prevail. The magic lies in reminding ourselves to persevere and in knowing that all your terrible, horrible, no good, very bad days will eventually end.

Contrary to what those who claim to be realists think, magic exists but not in the form of invisibility cloaks and white owls named Hedwig who deliver the mail. The question of whether nature's beauty was the whim of a higher being or a combination of infinite factors through the billions of years since Earth's creation is moot without the acknowledgment either the magic of creation and purpose, or the magic of chance.

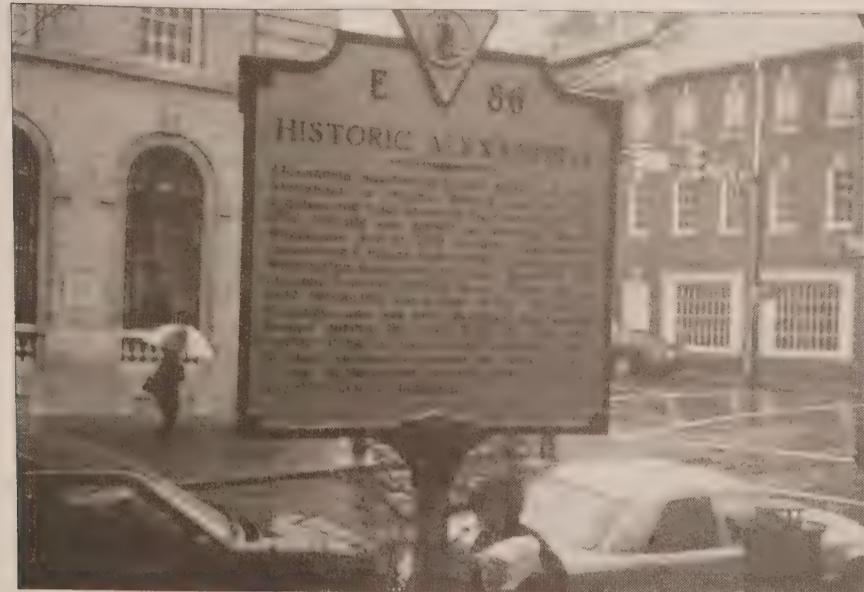
Those poor unbelievers, taking magic literally. When will they learn in the magic of good old-fashioned belief?

As these children dream of facing dangerous foes in far-off lands, many

# FEATURES

## Alexandria, Va: The historic town with a modern feel

Just a short drive away, this small colonial town is the ideal destination to relax any Hopkins student: Its museums and cafés abound.



Old Town Alexandria has all the feel of a Civil War-era town, but with modern, artsy venues.

BY TERESA MATEJOVSKY

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

If the looming proximity of exams has been nourishing a growing sentiment of scholarly revolt, the town of Alexandria, Va. just might offer enough diversion to inspire impulsive submission to the rebel call. Just a half hour south of Washington, D.C. and an hour and a half drive from Baltimore, this quaint town of colonial fame boasts the shops, the food, the bars, the crafts and the history necessary for a fantastic getaway not only from campus stress, but from this entire century.

With a history of civil unrest and rowdy sailors, this little port has a sound reputation for channelling frustration into active energy. Faster than you can say George Washington, Alexandria can whip up a sense of colonial revolutionary spirit to match any academic rebel. In the past, its ideal port location and close proximity to D.C. made every-

one who was somebody in history wanted a share of Alexandria. It's no different now. Although the restaurants draw tourists instead of lounging Union soldiers, the town remains where it has always been – in the spotlight.

The beauty of Alexandria is that you can hit it without a plan or any preparation. Its network of cobblestone streets is small enough to allow wandering without getting lost. The streets themselves are lined with enough boutiques and historic nooks to make random browsing a full-day affair.

The story of Alexandria's spunk starts from the beginning. Starting out as a thriving tobacco port, the town became a hub of pre-Revolutionary War protests and was the location of the first casualties of the Civil War – the Union and the Confederacy both wanting its ideal stronghold. In the "famous people" department, its past reads like a Who's Who of American history, with a list of inhabitants including not only the

from the Mercedes and Audis that replace the old horse-drawn carriages,

Indeed, apart from the Mercedes and Audis that replace the old horse-drawn carriages, life on King St, the main run in town, and its surrounding neighborhood goes on as always.

life on King St, the main run in town, and its surrounding neighborhood

goes on as always. The couple blocks from the water is a perfect, mindless strolling distance. And beautiful, at that.

For those who "dare" to venture into a – gasp – museum, only pleasant surprises await. The Friendship Firehouse, at 107 S. Alfred St., displays adorable old fire wagons in the original 19th century firehouse. Visitors can even try on old fire uniforms, grab a bucket and blow the fire bugle. One forgets how much fun dress up can be until you find yourself posing in historic fire gear in front of a horse-drawn fire-fighting cart.

One block up is an apothecaries museum. Two blocks over is George Washington's former parish, Christ Church. While the museums charge no cover, visitors can empty their wallets in the craft stores that abound at every corner. Store windows display hand-blown glass, carvings, ceramics, antiques and gifts. Persian carpet stores and high-end retailers including Banana Republic and Nine West infiltrate here and there. The Torpedo Factory, at 105 N. Union St., is a highly popular destination for craft-seekers, who can purchase artwork from 160 professional artists

Frankly, while the town may no longer need to feed an entire Union army, it maintains enough cafés and

restaurants to feed the army of shoppers and locals that flock through the streets. Every corner offers a different dining option. In keeping with its international port flavor, Alexandria offers everything from French bakeries and cafés to Thai food and Chinese to Tex-Mex and Italian. And in keeping with the historic flavor, there are many seafood restaurants and traditional pub diners. For real traditional fare straight from waitresses in colonial skirts, there is Gadsby's Tavern, at 138 N. Royal St., which continues to serve the same corn bread and ale it did to the sailors of the old days.

Being hungry is no excuse to leave Alexandria early. It might even be the primary reason to stop by.



Colonial pubs and craft stores are a short drive from B'more and D.C.

Although Alexandria alone has enough to occupy visitors for at least a full day, a short drive away from Alexandria brings visitors to Mount Vernon, where they can tour George Washington's famed home. As an insider's secret, one will be surprised how small his house really is. The grounds are sprawling, though, and the tour could take a whole day, but at least it's worth the entry fee.

So books closed and ale mugs up – it's time to take a break and submit to the rebel call one last time. Alexandria has a history of wild fun that can't even compare to Charles Village: This town has been at it since 1669. That in itself deserves a toast.

## DVD players: The best models to pick for the ultimate in sound and picture



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN /NEWS-LETTER

The top models are going to cost you a pretty penny, but they are worth the money.

BY STEVEN ZAMPIERI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Are you tired of being the only kid in the dorm without his own DVD player? Do you find yourself staring at your old VHS tape player, wondering why you bought such a useless contraption? Do you know what VHS means? I didn't think so. Well, it looks like you might as well start using those tapes as coasters and that VCR as a Frisbee, because you're not "cool" unless you watch your movies digitally. Here's how you can begin your trek to break into the "in crowd."

With that issue clarified, let's move on to other manifestations of the DVD player.

There now exists a five-disc DVD changer, for those of us who can't stand the time it takes to change discs between three hour sessions of your "Godfather" marathon. If you're looking for one of these changers, expect to spend over \$200, instead of the \$150 of your basic single-DVD player (that might not "do everything perfectly," but still gets the job done).

If you really have time on your hands and an extensive DVD library, you can look into the Onkyo DV-M301 301-Disc DVD/CD Changer. It goes for about \$725, and is the ultimate in laziness. By the time you hit the late DVD #270, all the ones you

put in are classics, and the DVD itself is obsolete.

Of course, then there's the opposite direction: the portable DVD player with a built-in screen. These will set you back at least \$400. One that you might want to check out is Panasonic's D V D - L V 5 7 "PalmTheater," a portable DVD video/Video CD/CD player with a built-in five inch diagonal LCD monitor. For those of you who aren't sure just how long five inches is, that's slightly shorter than the average man's electric shaver. Due to the sheer size of the screen on this bad boy,

the PalmTheater comes with a remote control. This prevents you from hurting your eyes by sitting too close to the machine.

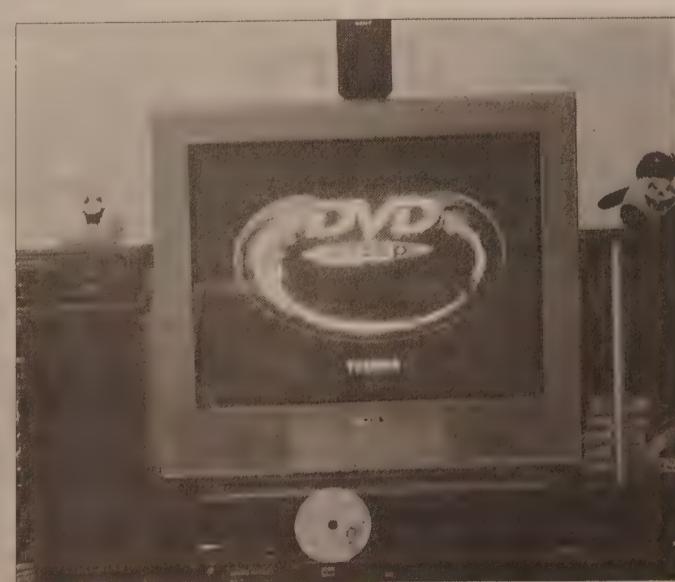
When you finally decide what type of DVD player you want, your best bet would be to visit Lycos Shopping

at <http://www.lycos.dealtimes.com>. This site will first narrow your search by price range, then you can browse for the model that you want, and compare prices from different online mer-

Narrow your search by price range, then you can browse for the model that you want, and compare prices from different merchants.

chants.

After observing several DVD players, I have noticed minimal difference between them concerning audio and visual quality, but apparently there are people who do and create a demand for those with four-digit prices and no bells and/or whistles.



RAPHAEL SCHWEBER-KOREN /NEWS-LETTER

Don't be that guy that still watches his movies on a rusty old VCR.

## Prometheus at JHU

Philosophical journal forum for students

BY JESSICA VALDEZ

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

in the magazine will receive a free copy.

The journal was officially founded in August by Kotlyar and four friends, who now form the editorial board. Those involved include Kotlyar as editor-in-chief, John Odito as copy editor, Dave Harris as secretary and Matt Rosenberg and Joseph Gorodenker as managing editors.

Eventually, Kotlyar hopes the journal will yield both a graduate and an undergraduate publication. Currently, the journal is limited only to undergraduates, although any college student throughout the world is encouraged to submit work as long as it is in English.

Moreover, international interest has been expressed; the journal received an e-mail from a college faculty member in Naples, Italy inquiring about the project. In fact, the journal's call for papers has even been published in The American Philosophy Association publication and Web site.

"We're the first undergraduate journal ever to have that done in my knowledge," said Kotlyar.

Kotlyar seeks to obtain further academic recognition and thus will strictly adhere to scholarly guidelines to maintain the integrity of the journal. Also, he continually stresses that the upcoming publication is not a magazine but rather a journal.

"A magazine has informal laymen's terms," said Kotlyar. "This will be a serious academic journal. It will be fairly technical, although accessible to undergraduates."

The journal has received funds from the Provost's office and the Office of Student Life. In two years, the editorial board also hopes to obtain funds from the Student Activities Council of the Student Council.

"This is the humanities equivalent of what the science research journal would be," said Kotlyar.

"Philosophical discussions are a key part of academia, and it's a forum for undergraduate students that's really not been at Hopkins."

The deadline is Jan. 1, 2002, for submissions. Submissions should be sent to [prometheusjhu@hotmail.com](mailto:prometheusjhu@hotmail.com). For more information, visit <http://jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu/~jg20/index.htm>.

## FEATURES

# Students find gems in the junkyard



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-Letter

Furnishing your apartment can be costly, but bargain hunting is the best way to save.

BY MAABA JAFRY  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

It's no secret that most college students are on tight budgets. Between, food, entertainment, and day-to-day living expenses, there's often very little left over. So if you're looking for a place to cut corners, you might want to try furnishing your dorm, apartment or house secondhand.

Remember that episode of *Friends* where Phoebe sang praises of the unique finds of the flea market while Rachel paid 10 times as much for furniture from Pottery Barn? Well, Phoebe was on to something — places like flea markets, Salvation Army, Goodwill, garage sales and E-Bay are great places to look if you want to decorate for cheap.

Junior Stephanie Teller and her housemates got a lot of the furniture for their house from street sales, E-Bay and graduating seniors who had to sell their furniture before they left. They also picked up some old chairs that the school was throwing away. Teller says, "We found furniture everywhere. If we found a chair on the side of the road that was in good condition, we took it. We just kept our eyes open at all times. The piece I like the best is my bookshelf which cost \$25 from a senior, used. And it's in great condition. I also love our couch and chair in our living room. They're really comfy and they match!" Teller added, "Our

coffee tables are red crates and they are fun and functional."

So why do students like to shop secondhand? Teller says, "Basically, the biggest factor is cost. I know that I had a tight budget and so I was looking for stuff for cheap. Some stuff we had to go to Target and stores like that for, but the main stuff I bought used. I'm only going to need this stuff for two years so this is the best way to do it and then you can sell it again, which helps a lot."

Students also like shopping secondhand because the items they find there are unique. Used furniture often has an interesting history, or are things you wouldn't normally find at a regular furniture store. Freshmen Catherine Sawyer and Jen Rolston bought a clear, cube-shaped, glass end-table for their dorm room at Salvation Army. Rolston says, "We were there shopping for tee-shirts and we saw the table and were like, 'This would be great to hide beer in!' Now we use it to store our food. We made

them. It's nice to find random stuff when you're not looking for it. I always go for secondhand. Except for underwear. Steer clear of secondhand underwear. Socks are pretty suspect, too."

When shopping secondhand, there are a few things to watch out for. You're more likely to come upon holes, stains and strange smells when you're shopping for used furniture, so inspect each item and make sure it really is a good deal. Transportation of your "new" furniture is also important, espe-

cially if you don't have a car.

Rolston warns, "Make sure you know how you're going to get your furniture home. We had to tape our end table to a skateboard and roll it back." Also, since secondhand shopping is often hit-or-miss, you can't be sure that you'll always find what you're looking for.

Teller elaborated by saying, "The

We were [at Salvation Army] shopping for tee-shirts and we saw the table and were like, 'This would be great to hide beer in!'

Now we use it to store our food.

— FRESHMAN JEN ROLSTON

drawbacks are that you never know if you're going to find everything. I came back to summer session without a bed and had to crash at a friend's house until I found a bed to buy. But people want to get rid of their stuff so it isn't that bad. You just have to be patient [and] creative."



LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-Letter

Be very careful what you take home; some things should be left in the garbage.

## Pranks take time and planning to be perfect

BY MAANY PEYVAN  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Stupidity strikes at about 4 a.m., I've found. Maybe somewhere in the circadian rhythms of the human body lies some recessive timeframe where every idea falls flat on its face. I don't know, there's always time for research.

Take for example me and my friend Nate. About two weeks ago, at 4 a.m. Nate and I found the zeitgeist to pull a prank. And not just any prank. Our muse was the second floor bathroom of the Wood House. You see, for sometime, our floor bathroom

name plates on the doors. We met our opposition in four, two inch long, zinc-coated, steel, clockwise-turning screws. Quickly we barged into a sleeping friend's room and stole a toolbox that must look like God's. The particular screws required a square Allen wrench and af-

CONTINUED ON PAGE B6



Our lack of the appropriate tools led our plans to degenerate into silly vandalism.

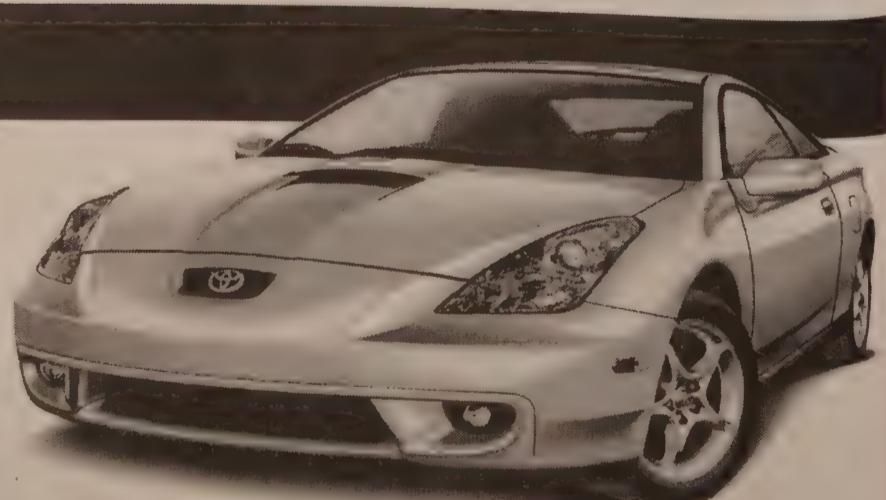
Suggestions like, "hey, let's open the hosing for the fire extinguisher," became all too common.

has been absent of both toilet paper and soap.

But these washroom worries had been exclusive to the men of the house. And so Nate and I plotted a scheme to somehow better our situation. Inspiration struck when Nate suggested we switch the male/female

## Celica — The Inside Story

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## The top 10 ways to relax before finals

BY GINA CALLAHAN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Odds are if you are at Hopkins, you're pretty smart and since smart people generally tend to study and all that fun stuff, you are likely to be preparing for some major academic expenditure and work during the upcoming finals period. Surprise, surprise, this time may become stressful for you.

You may become frustrated. You may feel like there is nowhere to turn... You may be looking for ways to relax and the *News-Letter* is here to help. Try the following suggestions:

10. Stuff your face. That extra 15 isn't just for freshman. Mommy sent you back from Thanksgiving with lots of goodies. Can we say chocolate chips? Indulge when you need a little break and don't forget the milk.

9. Call a friend. Talk to a fellow Blue Jay and vent your common frustrations. Or since we all know there are schools where people do not work and do not need to study (where the weekend legitimately begins on Tuesday or Wednesday) give friend from home a call. Make plans for Christmas break and Interession if you'll be around.

8. Move!!!! Exercise is our friend. (Remember all those chocolate chips?). Many JHU students surveyed said they run when they need to relax. Hit the AC or grab a friend and move 'til you feel the burn.

7. Get High. Literally. At Port Discovery here in "America's Greatest City" there currently is an exhibit that allows you to venture upward in a HiFlyer hot air balloon. On Dec. 1. See the view, get some fresh air, get in the spirit and put it all in perspective.

6. Utilize the VCR. We all have our favorite video, that guaranteed "feel better" film. Get out your copy or visit MSE which has its own unique movie library for something you haven't seen. And keeping with the holiday spirit you may want to try something classic and Christmas-y. Think the new Grinch, Home Alone perhaps, and don't neglect those old school cartoons. Frosty the Snowman anyone?

5. "Lighten up." There are a plethora of holiday lights displays in the area. Get out for some visual

stimulation. Some options include the Festival of Lights in Baltimore's Fell's Point on Dec. 1 and the 14, as well as the Annual Parade of Lighted Boats in the Inner Harbor, also on Dec. 1.

4. Shop. Direct orders from Washington. You are needed to help stimulate the economy. Go spend money and check some of those holiday gift purchases off your list. Most importantly though, buy yourself something too. Come on, you know a new sweater makes everything better. And while you're visiting a holiday shopping Mecca, stop by to see Santa.

3. D-level challenge. Is there ever a bad time for the D-Level challenge? And extra points for picking finals time, when the library is packed.

2. Sleep. Power naps are also our friends. Or better still have a "cave day" on the weekend before you start studying. Make sure you are well rested by gathering a group of friends together, having a fun Friday night, then an unproductive Saturday. Laziness reigns. The television goes on (Lifetime movies or ESPN perhaps) and no one is allowed to get up except to eat and visit the bathroom. Once it gets dark you can move again.

1. And finally... don't study. In talking with upperclassmen, the most

Shop. Direct orders from Washington. You are needed to help stimulate the economy. Go spend money and check some of those holiday gift purchases off your list.

common advice for dealing with the tension of finals was simply to avoid the situation all together. "Just don't study," they suggest, "you really don't need to." Yeah. Okay. We'll all just rely on our stellar God-given intelligence. Wonderful idea.

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## FEATURES

# Holiday gift ideas for those on a tight budget

We have some thrifty ideas on what to get Mom, Dad and friends

BY MEGAN WAITKOFF  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

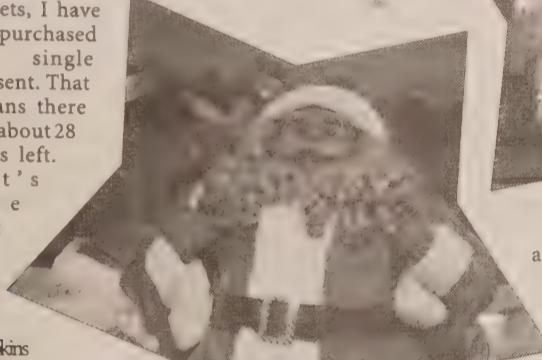
I was relaxing during the past holiday weekend, kicking back and trying to keep up a conversation while inhaling as much food as I possibly could (after three months of dorm food, wouldn't you too?) and it came to my attention that we are nearing the end of November. Do you know what that means? Christmas is right around the corner. The splendid day is less than a month away. (Yes, take a deep breath, let it sink in. I can hear the "Oh Shit!" ringing throughout the campus.) The wonderful mass commune to the malls has already begun. Me being exceedingly lazy and avoiding lines that are longer than ones I would wait in for s o n

dining room table from somewhere like Marshall Field's or Neiman Marcus, but let's be honest. That's just not going to happen. However, have you noticed that the amenities at Terrace and Wolman are of the highest quality? They're used day in and day out, and they never break. The silverware stays shiny, and the pattern of the plates and glasses would be perfect for just about anyone! I'm sure if you took a fork at dinner, it wouldn't be missed. And then a spoon the next day. And then a plate (which would be harder to smuggle out, but can still be done). Pretty soon, you'll have

considering the actions of going to the bathroom and eating as taking breaks. What usually happens when we spend countless hours pouring over physics and chemistry and history and literature?? We get hungry and dehydrated! For the holiday study season, surprise a friend with an energizing care package!! Meal equiv. at Megabytes or the Depot for refreshing fruit drinks, appetizing apples and oranges, and Utz pretzels and chips!

He or she will greatly appreciate the thought, and the cost to you?

NB



yourself an entire place setting with the grand total coming out to be ... oh, I think our tuition probably covers it, don't you?

Do you need any ideas for those friends on campus that you want to get something special for? I have a few. For the next few weeks, we are

Give them a book — say, for example, your Intro. Chemistry book, or your Macroeconomics book, or your Molecules and Cells book or your copy of the Communist Manifesto.

going to be studying nonstop. Judging by the usual Hopkins mentality, that means pulling all-nighters and

Except you forgot your little brother or sister. Don't worry! I have just the solution for you. You buy an unbelievable amount of books at the beginning of every semester, some of which you don't even read, and most of which you will read once and watch collect dust underneath your bed. Your little brothers and sisters look up to you! They want to be just like you. Why not help them out and give them a book — say, for example, your Intro. Chemistry book, or your Macroeconomics book, or your Molecules and Cells book or your copy of the Communist Manifesto? Not only are you sharing yourself with them, but you're also encouraging them to learn. Absolutely priceless.

If these unparalleled ideas don't appeal to you, then friends, you are on your own this Christmas Season. Remember, they won't know that you got that nice set of measuring cups from the Chem. Lab. Hell, you could even get your friends a new hot plate for their dorm room (just be careful, we don't want security on your ass during finals.) And remember, it's the thought that counts. No matter what you get them, your family will probably just be happy you made it home. You could even skip the shopping and tell them that you're giving the gift of your presence. It might work. Anyways, Happy Studying, Happy Shopping and Happy Holidays!

Photos by Mike Fischer and Ali Shybut/News-Letter.

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## FEATURES

# Pranksters successful at times

Learn how to avoid making mistakes that make pranks go awry

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4

After rifling through the toolbox, we had no success. Our lack of the appropriate tools led our plans to degenerate into silly vandalism. Suggestions like, "hey, let's open the housing for the fire extinguisher," became all too common.

Which leads to our first lesson in prank planning: be prepared. To be successful in planning pranks, one must be aware of the situation. The creativity and ingenuity of the American people is well documented, but all the resourcefulness in the world can't substitute for sound planning and an accurate

school. With rolls of tape and cans of shaving cream Nate created a veritable barricade in front of his roommate's door. The trap was set for the mark to burst through his door, and suffer from his foamiest shave ever. The irony of it all, was the mark was actually outside of the room at the time: a slight oversight.

Lesson 2: Know your enemy.

Me and Nate tried this trick again on a Wood House member. The trick backfired unbelievably when all we had to use were half a roll of packaging tape and a free can of Edge Pro Shave Gel. Not only did the mark not walk through the poorly, thrown together contraption, but took the gel and attacked me thoroughly. Strike 2. Lesson 3: Don't pull a prank half-assed.

"Think about it Nate. Which two people can stand each other the least?" I asked my now partner in crime. The answer was fresh on both of our minds. Our final plan was to switch every article of clothing and

furniture of these two people, especially hilarious because one lived in Wolman, the other in AMR I. We had a card key to Wolman all lined up, two lookouts for both locations, and an intersecting timeframe to do the deed.

But at the end of it all, we figured carrying computer equipment through Wolman and five lanes of traffic might draw un-sirene attention. Lesson 4: Keep the scope small. Strike 3, we're out.

Realizing that I absolutely sucked at playing pranks, I interviewed my dorm mates about any great stories. And I close this article with a gem. My anonymous female friend recites: "I was sleeping at my aunt's house overnight, and I was the first to fall asleep. And I sleep hard. During the night, my cousin's stole all my underwear, put them in plastic bags full of water, and froze them. The funny thing was, they took the pair I was wearing at the time. I never woke up."

His coup de grace of prankdom occurred his junior year of high school. With rolls of tape and cans of shaving cream, Nate created a veritable barricade in front of his roommate's door.

preparation. If Nate and I had gathered the essential tools, the hands of the Wood House males might not be hazardous bacteria stores (I've since bought soap, ladies). Strike 1.

It's important to note that Nate is a product of boarding school, and so has been privy to a host of various pranks. Stealing towels, launching water balloons, breaking into rooms, fiddling with circuit breakers, releasing mice into closed quarters; all jewels in Nate's prank crown.

His coup de grace of prankdom occurred his junior year of high

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**HOT AT HOPKINS**  
and deserves to be one of the  
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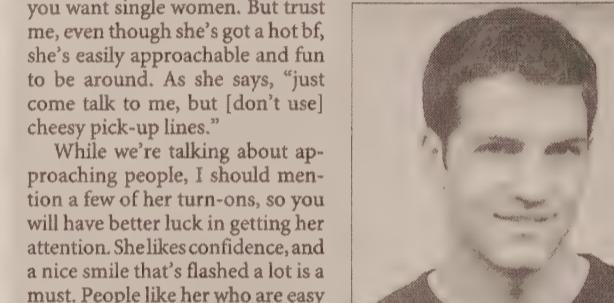
## HOT AT HOPKINS

done thus far was "driving to Atlantic City at 2:30 in the morning on a Friday to see the sun rise over the Jersey Shore." She had class at 10:30 a.m., but she still proclaims it to be one of the best experiences of her sophomore year so far. I'm sure that the adventure doesn't stop there for Steph. Sky diving or bungee jumping might just make an ideal date.

Her best date, however, was a little more low-key. It involved, "getting picked up in the morning to be taken to a field with a picnic all set up, complete with flowers and candles." Wow. That would be tough to beat for sure. But Steph recommends "going to the BMA and spending the day there, then a nice dinner and a walk."

She's got an eclectic mix of hobbies including, writing, sculpting, acting and playing the guitar and piano. Her top priority however, has to be "partying with her girls." And do they know how to party. Trust me.

You might also spot this girl on campus by her sophisticated clothing style. She sports the threads of Arden B (the best store under the sun for people with little butts), BCBG, Express and Bloomingdales. She's got a thing for Motown and Godiva White Chocolate ice cream, with raspberry swirl. Take my advice and introduce yourself before she passes you by!



### SEXY SUN GODDESS

Full name: Stephanie Sun  
Sign: Pisces  
Year: Sophomore

Major: English/Art History

There's no telling where this "spunky and silly" sophomore is going to be at any given time during the day. However, when you do happen to see Stephanie, or Steph as her friends know her, you'll know why she's a hot commodity at Hopkins.

Steph, a native New Yorker, is 5'4" tall, skinny and is, as her friend Jamie said, "all leg, but no ass." Ass or no ass, she definitely turns many heads when walking to class. Alas, though, I have to spill the bad news, boys: she's taken. Yeah, I know, you want single women. But trust me, even though she's got a bf, she's easily approachable and fun to be around. As she says, "just come talk to me, but [don't] use cheesy pick-up lines."

While we're talking about approaching people, I should mention a few of her turn-ons, so you will have better luck in getting her attention. She likes confidence, and a nice smile that's flashed a lot is a must. People like her who are easy to talk to and who can make her laugh score extra points. And if your family owns a farm, consider yourself golden. Just as a side note: Make sure you have a six pack, wear Abercrombie and slightly resemble Brad Pitt. Just kidding.

However, you must have Brad's sense of adventure to woo this wildflower. The craziest thing she has

I bet you're all wondering who this stud is, and why, oh why, he hasn't crossed your path until now. Well, I've got news for you ladies: not only is he an incredibly, fantastically single and handsome guy, he's also one of Hopkins' most valuable Varsity soccer players. Do I spy a future Brian McBride on our campus?

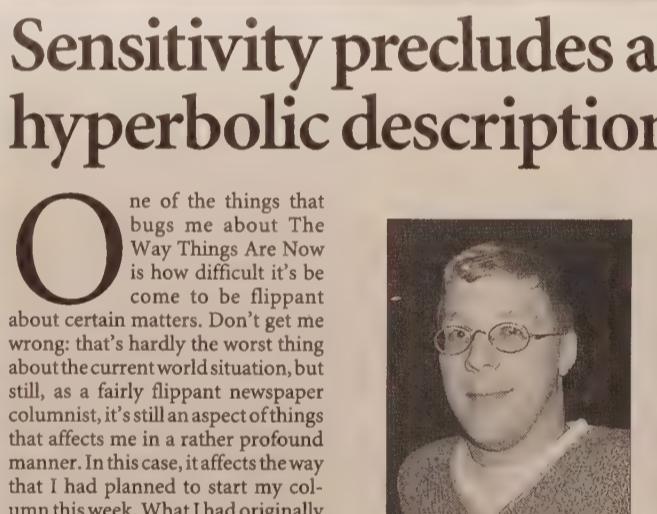
Well, for starters, he does have the looks and the talent. Michael, or "Nookie" as his friends know him, is about six feet tall with green eyes, and, as his friends say, "a nice ass." But Mike's kind of a shy guy. He likes to have fun, watching movies and flying planes, but he's not the outgoing type.

Mike says that the best way for a girl to approach him is to just be forward — perhaps buy him a drink. He likes girls who are athletic and have a sense of humor, but he's not all about people who think they're all that and a bag of chips. He'd probably prefer someone as down to earth as he is. So, anyone who makes the first move and makes him laugh in the process is sure to win him over.

And what a catch he would be. Just read his idea of a perfect date: "I pick my date up and we drive to a small airport just outside the city. We then climb into a plane and the two of us set off for Martha's Vineyard. On a cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, I pull out a picnic and we eat dinner and watch the sunset."

If that isn't tempting, then I don't know what is. There's also a soft side to this athletic hunk. He likes things like the movie *Shrek*, baby blue and Maya Angelou. Oh, and get this — he's got his sights set on becoming an Intellectual Property lawyer. And once he's a partner in ten years, he might just get married. If he could be doing anything right now, he says he'd like to be "Hugh Hefner's sidekick." I get the feeling that he plans on being a bachelor for a while. However, I'm counting on all of you hot Hopkins ladies to change that.

**HOP'S MIGHTY FINE MIDFIELDER**  
Full name: Michael Cordeiro  
Sign: Leo  
Year: Senior  
Major: Mechanical Engineering



**Sensitivity precludes an adequate hyperbolic description of burnout**

**O**ne of the things that bugs me about The Way Things Are Now is how difficult it's become to be flippant about certain matters. Don't get me wrong: that's hardly the worst thing about the current world situation, but still, as a fairly flippant newspaper columnist, it's still an aspect of things that affects me in a rather profound manner. In this case, it affects the way that I had planned to start my column this week. What I had originally wanted to say at the start was "I feel like a refugee." Now, in other times this could perhaps have been taken as merely a bit of amusing hyperbole describing the sensation of exhaustion and burnout that the work and travel at the end of the fall semester produces. Nowadays, though, I can't really say it with a clear conscience. After all, the traveling that I'm doing is going home to a loving family where they practically beg to feed me and make me comfortable (thanks, Mom). If I were actually a refugee, I would be traveling because my home was destroyed by marauding warlords; and rather than having had a Thanksgiving dinner that couldn't be beat over the weekend, I would probably not have eaten for weeks.

So you see the quandary that I'm in. I'm looking for an image to describe a stressful, but comparatively benign situation that afflicts me as a comfortably bourgeois American college student, and all I can come up with is one that once would have been more or less innocuous, but is now rather grotesquely inappropriate. Of course, one could make the argument that I'm being terribly insensitive, given that the world has had a substantial refugee problem for some time now and my being sensitive to it now is not only somewhat naively facile, but perhaps even exploitative. To those criticisms I reply that this column is about me, so I'm just going to drop the subject entirely now.

Thanksgiving weekend could, in theory, be the ideal holiday. After all, what could be better but a four-or-five-day break just before we have to plunge into the maelstrom of finals? It rests us and gives us a chance to gather ourselves before we continue on to the culmination of our carefully

and privileges appertaining thereto." Would that really be that difficult? I mean, I've done almost everything... couldn't I get something that says that and then spend the rest of the year playing video games or something? Is that really too much to ask?

Probably. Especially since I doubt that my parents would be too happy with a certificate of almost-completion for the trouble they took to send me here in the first place. They'd probably also want me to get a job, rather than play the aforementioned video games. Damn.

To try and make sure that this column continues to have some relevance to people outside myself (as I desperately hope and pray every single week), I'm going to assume that most of you readers are probably having many of the same feelings, and would be in much the same difficult situation should you try to act on them. If I were a self-help guru of any merit at all, I'd probably use the re-

After all, I did wonder out loud to a friend the other day if I could just receive, instead of a diploma, a certificate of "almost-completion."

maining space to present a bulleted list of ideas to help us all shake off the apathy and plunge into the ocean of work with renewed vigor and alacrity (and if I were a self-help guru of even more merit, I would try to sell those ideas to you for three easy payment of \$19.95). Unfortunately, I'm not much of a self-help guru at all, and since I'm devoid of ideas for me to use to how to finish off the semester without going crazy, none of you will be getting any help. All I know is that those research papers won't do themselves. Anyone know anything about medieval military technology?

**WE'RE A LITTLE CENTSLESS.**

Fifty, to be exact, and it will only get worse. That's because, while school is in session, Eddie's is offering a cents-off coupon for a different sandwich each week. Check below for your weekly Senseless Special, and use the good sense you have to get fifty cents back.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Crowd-pleasing Spy Game

Tony Smith directs a thriller that appeals to several generations



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

Brad Pitt stars as a daring ex-CIA agent.

BY CAROLINE M. SAFFER

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Just in time for the chilling weather comes director Tony Smith's fast-paced thriller, *Spy Game*, a movie full of action and drama sure to heat up even the more stoic viewers.

The film stars Robert Redford (looking rough around the edges in his advancing age) as Nathan Muir, a CIA agent who, upon the day of his retirement, is drawn once more into a web of political intrigue. Early



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.IMDB.COM

Robert Redford (Nathan Muir) and Brad Pitt (Tom Bishop) in *Spy Game*.

in the morning, Muir finds out that ex-agent Tom Bishop (played by the ever-stunning Brad Pitt, his own protégé), has been captured by the Chinese government for attempting to free a prisoner from a high-security jail. Muir is forced to maneuver between fellow CIA agents who want Bishop dead while trying to save Bishop at the same time.

The film alternates between the present situation — the 24 hours Muir has left as a CIA agent and the time he has left to carry out his final plot — and the past, chronicling the development of Muir and Bishop's relationship from their first meeting in Vietnam in the '70s. Muir, sensing something extraordinary in Bishop, offers him a position in the CIA. The younger man accepts, throwing himself completely into learning the trade under Muir's well-seasoned expertise.

Their adventures lead them through Europe, ending up in Lebanon, where Muir and Bishop are on a mission to kill a powerful terrorist (an all-too-appropriate theme these days). In Beirut, Bishop meets Elizabeth Hadley (played by *Braveheart's* Catherine McCormack), a relief worker in Beirut, with whom Bishop falls in love, aggravating the already-

developing rift between the idealistic Bishop and the savvier Muir, who knows that the rules of humanity must be suspended sometimes for the games that the CIA must play.

The narrative chronicling Muir and Bishop's collective adventures is portrayed as Muir's memories, displayed before the committee collected to discuss Bishop's imprisonment. These scenes are full of high suspense, punctuated by Redford's sharp humor, creating a heightened interest in both plot and direction.

The film is elegantly crafted; a succinct series of scenes collaged

The film is entertaining, even engaging, but it leaves the viewer feeling a little cheated, like trying to visit all of Europe in a week.

together, set to a soundtrack of world music and classic rock. The main problem with *Spy Game* is one committed by many a filmmaker — it tries to cover too much ground in too short a period of time. The film is entertaining, even engaging, but it leaves the viewer feeling a little cheated, like trying to visit all of Europe in a week. Nevertheless, the movie is certainly worth seeing, sure to please older and younger crowds alike.

*Spy Game* is currently playing at: Loew's White Marsh at 8141 Honeygo Blvd. Showtimes are 11:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 3:10 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 6:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Call 410-933-9034.

GC Towson Commons 8 at 1:15 p.m., 4:05 p.m., 6:55 p.m. and 9:40 p.m. Call 410-825-5233.

Muvico Egyptian 24 at Arundel Mills at 12:50 p.m., 1:40 p.m., 3:50 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 6:50 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 9:50 p.m., 10:40 p.m. Call 443-755-8992.

A simple and beautifully computer-animated depiction of a fly and the things he/she lands on. The lyrics are gibberish and the song itself is great. Comes with a video game.

Synopsis: There's a fly, there's a room. A bunch of slackers are laying in that room. The fly flies around.

### SPOON, "EVERYTHING HITS AT ONCE"

It's no coincidence that this band and *Waking Life* filmmaker Richard Linklater are both from the capital of Texas. One of Linklater's animators created this video to accompany a pop tune by the Austinite band Spoon. It was filmed first by real actors, then painted over later.

Synopsis: A young man drives around, encountering many women. But one particular girl in a house he drives by still occupies his mind. Much of the narrative mystery can be put together by the many expressive nuances captured by this film technique.

### SIGUR ROS, "VIDRAR VEL TIL LOFTARASA" ("NICE WEATHER FOR AN AIRSTRIKE")

This is one of the most brilliant videos I've ever seen, yet I couldn't even begin to try summing it up. It's like the *Lawrence Welk Show* stuffed in a Hampden Laundromat and choreographed 30 years later by Andy Kaufman. An absurd collection of unrelated motifs that actually comes together as perfectly executed comedy. The Avalanches come from Australia, but that doesn't help explain anything.

Synopsis: The curtain opens. The Baltimore County School Board is trying to figure out what to do about Dexter's truancy problem. Then an elderly man dressed as an elderly woman starts playing the drums! In come vintage rapping psychoanalysts, black cowboys, swaying ghosts, giant birds and monkeys, coconuts, a mariachi band, and so much more.

## There's no denying the ghetto

The other day I found myself the target of an individual who was rather angry that I had used the word "ghetto" to describe parts of the city of Baltimore in an article I had written more than two years ago. Because of my use of the adjective/noun, he claimed that I was a racist and in fact epitomized everything that is wrong with Hopkins. Never mind the fact that I never mentioned a single word about race in the article under consideration. Hell, never mind the fact that he was rather free with labeling practically the entire tri-state area as being ghetto.

My main complaint comes from the fact that people have become so obsessed with being politically correct in their vocabularies that they cannot see the truth for how it is. Parts of Baltimore are, indeed, ghetto. To claim that such a proclamation is tantamount to announcing a bigoted attitude against African-Americans, however, is faulty and straight up wrong.

I spent a large part of my life growing up in a rural area of Texas. The town was located about an hour outside of Houston and was probably around 99 percent Caucasian. Yet, I would honestly say that many parts of this area were, indeed, ghetto. A large part of this town was dirt poor, and if dilapidated housing, boards on

windows and drunks wandering around street corners are in any way indicative of ghetto-ness, that's all there is to say.

I would even go so far as to say that making an association in your mind between blackness and ghetto, as the aforementioned individual did during his angry fit, is in itself racist. Let's

### C.G. FORSYTHE GHETTO FABULOUS

be honest. A trip to any city will give you an amazing number of ghettos. There are the black ghettos, the Chinatown ghettos, the Little Italy ghettos, the gay ghettos, the Jewish ghettos. If you have ever lived in or near a major city, you know exactly what I am to be talking about. Then again, if you happen to be from some minority-free suburb in, say, Connecticut, maybe you are just missing the point entirely.

I personally do not even see anything wrong with the concept of ghetto. How many hip-hop designers are proud to proclaim that their lines are "ghetto fabulous?" Sean- John, Fubu, Timberland, ENYCE and even the clothing store Against All Odds are all, in fact, proud to maintain their ghetto fabulous style. Let's

not even forget the enormous number of hip-hop and R&B stars, from Nelly to J. Lo, who are starting their own ghetto fab clothing lines.

When it comes to music, the ghetto is held in the highest of positions: where would Cee Lo be without the ghetto in his number one rap single "My Projects?" I know you can't deny it — yes, that was probably a horrible pun — Fabolous probably wouldn't be where he is today without his rapidly-approaching platinum status album "Ghetto Fabolous." Lil' Bow Wow got in on the action with this summer's "Ghetto Girls." Foxy Brown gave a salute to Brooklyn's projects in "BK Anthem" and then speaks to the masses in "Hood Scriptures." Jay-Z has his project chick in his newest single "Girls, Girls, Girls." Damage, an R&B group that is reaching relatively high popularity in the UK, had a top-ten single earlier this year with "Ghetto Romance." And even G. Dep is getting in on the action with a cut from this summer's album from P. Diddy & The Bad Boys Family, "Child of the Ghetto."

Ghetto is not bad. Ghetto is, in fact, very good. If you feel the need to use some euphemism to describe it, then maybe you just don't have the pride in ghetto-ness that the rest of us do. Honey, say it loud and say it proud: there ain't nothing wrong with the ghetto.

### CMJ TOP 20 ALBUMS

1) DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE. <i>The Photo Album</i> (Barsuk)	2) STROKES. <i>Is This It</i> (RCA)	3) SPIRITUALIZED. <i>Let It Come Down</i> (Arista)	4) APHEX TWIN. <i>Drukqs</i> (Warp-London-Sire)	5) MODEST MOUSE. <i>Everywhere And His Nasty Parlor Tricks</i> (Epic)	6) NEW ORDER. <i>Get Ready</i> (Reprise)	7) INTERNATIONAL NOISE CONSPIRACY. <i>A</i>	8) TENACIOUS D. <i>Tenacious D</i> (Epic)	9) DISMEMBERMENT PLAN. <i>Change</i> (DeSoto)	10) RYAN ADAMS. <i>Gold</i> (Lost Highway-IDJM)	11) FUGAZI. <i>Argument</i> (Dischord)	12) LE TIGRE. <i>Feminist Sweepstakes</i> (Mr. Lady)	13) LES SAVY FAV. <i>Go Forth</i> (French Kiss)	14) HOPE SANDOVAL AND THE WARM INVENTIONS. <i>Bavarian Fruit Bread</i> (Sanctuary)	15) BEN FOLDS. <i>Rockin' The Suburbs</i> (Epic)	16) OYSTERHEAD. <i>The Grand Pecking Order</i> (Elektra-EEG)	17) PINBACK. <i>Blue Screen Life</i> (Ace Fu)	18) BJORK. <i>Vespertine</i> (Elektra-EEG)	19) MERCURY REV. <i>All is Dream</i> (V2)	20) SEAWORTHY. <i>The Ride</i> (Jetset)
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## The top 10 music videos of 2001: Will Britney Spears make the cut?

**B**ritney cuts the restraint and lets it all out in her new video. She first broke out as an enthusiastic rebel schoolgirl but now, in "I'm a Slave 4 U," she's imprisoned in an Asian bath house with a *Blade Runner* backdrop and surrounded by obsessed boy-clones. There's something depressing about this whole scene.

The eroticism is almost antagonizing, as she finally personally confronts her minions of male viewers who are

lounging around apparently unzipped on some computer screen in Minnesota or Malaysia. She declares to them her frustrations with a mix of complacency and bitterness. Nevertheless, none of them are paying any attention. At least, they aren't paying attention to the words.

When music videos aren't about sex there's really no point in watching them. For years people have been complaining about MTV for no longer playing music videos. Most music videos are so boring, though, that I don't see why anyone would want to watch them. As the crowds get bigger in these videos, and as the lead artists increasingly have more fun, the camera becomes almost unnecessary. The viewers are simply assumed, nobody's trying to convince them to watch it. Who wants to watch a bunch of guys having fun without encouraging our participation? What if we don't want to take our shirts off and twirl them around like a helicopter?

### AVALANCHES, "FRONTIER PSYCHIATRIST"

This is one of the most brilliant videos I've ever seen, yet I couldn't even begin to try summing it up. It's like the *Lawrence Welk Show* stuffed in a Hampden Laundromat and choreographed 30 years later by Andy Kaufman. An absurd collection of unrelated motifs that actually comes together as perfectly executed comedy. The Avalanches come from Australia, but that doesn't help explain anything.

Synopsis: The curtain opens. The Baltimore County School Board is trying to figure out what to do about Dexter's truancy problem. Then an elderly man dressed as an elderly woman starts playing the drums! In come vintage rapping psychoanalysts, black cowboys, swaying ghosts, giant birds and monkeys, coconuts, a mariachi band, and so much more.

### CLINIC, "THE SECOND LINE"

A simple and beautifully computer-animated depiction of a fly and the things he/she lands on. The lyrics are gibberish and the song itself is great. Comes with a video game.

Synopsis: There's a fly, there's a room. A bunch of slackers are laying in that room. The fly flies around.

### HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH, "WIG IN A BOX"

It's no coincidence that this band and *Waking Life* filmmaker Richard Linklater are both from the capital of Texas. One of Linklater's animators created this video to accompany a pop tune by the Austinite band Spoon. It was filmed first by real actors, then painted over later.

Synopsis: A young man drives around, encountering many women. But one particular girl in a house he drives by still occupies his mind. Much of the narrative mystery can be put together by the many expressive nuances captured by this film technique.

### SIGUR ROS, "VIDRAR VEL TIL LOFTARASA" ("NICE WEATHER FOR AN AIRSTRIKE")

This queer-friendly vid by Iceland's hottest export is like a more candid version of the dramatic rock video narratives of the early '90s. The music is beautiful, though it doesn't necessarily coordinate with the story line. I mean, look at the song title. What? Jonsi, don't think because we don't know what you're singing you can just put any song to any video and get away with it. This video is a companion piece

to the band's other video, a lush dance by mentally-disabled angels over an Icelandic landscape.

Synopsis: A father thinks, why is that boy playing with dolls? Are those dolls both boys? Does one of them have lipstick? Cut to soccer game. Boy gets goal. Team wins. Boy celebrates by making out with another boy on the field. Check out the tongue action! All the Icelandic soccer dads and moms are staring.

### WHITE STRIPES, "HOTEL YORBA"

When I saw the White Stripes at the Ottobar all of nine months ago everybody still thought they were "supposedly" brother and sister and wondered why they looked at each other "that way." Then the whole dirty truth came out: these two actually used to be married. Jack and Meg White play with that conceit in this video set at a dingy old hotel to a screeching old-time rock song.

Synopsis: Jack plays guitar, Meg's on the bed with a tambourine. Jack's going to get married with some other girl and Meg's stuck to the married couple by a rope.

### WEIRD AL YANKOVIC, "LAST CRUISE"

On the one hand this entire film was like a "feature" music video and one of the most entertaining pictures of the year. This specific clip takes one of the lead musical numbers and adds a bouncing ball for a participatory sing-along, saying: don't despair, even you can be a punk rock drag queen.

Synopsis: Hedwig is lying around, sadly, on a trailer park couch. Then she punches the clock, puts on some makeup, turns on the tape deck, puts the wig back on her head. What to be? "Miss Midnight Checkout Queen?" "Miss Beehive 1963?" "Miss Farah

Fawcett from TV?" Or, ultimately, a punk rock star.

### MR. LIF, "BECAUSE THEY MADE IT THAT WAY"

This Boston hip-hop master has managed to make a video that omits decoration and puts all of the attention on the words and the music itself. No dancing or entertainment, but there's something about Mr. Lif's performing grace that makes one want to keep listening and watching until the end. Successful in its simplicity.

Synopsis: Nothing but Mr. Lif walking down the street, singing toward the camera.

### THE SHINS, "NEW SLANG"

There are two video versions of this song. One of them is your dull run-of-the-mill suburban indie rock video. The other version is a brilliant answer to both that video and the whole medium itself. There's just a girl (Kim Baxter) lip-synching along to the male vocals for the entire length of the song. It combines a pleasant, catchy tune that lingers for days with a punk music video manifesto that "f\*ck you's" the medium and its clichés.

Synopsis: A plane lands and then we cut to a young woman, getting ready to start singing the song. The anticipation is remarkable. She keeps snickering, and sometimes she just stops singing entirely as the song continues on.

### THE STROKES, "LAST NITE" AND NEW ORDER, "CRYSTAL"

I could write a thesis about the new Strokes video, which joins New Order in a tie for last place on this year's top 10. Both feature modernized Ed Sullivan-like stages. The Ro-

man Coppola-directed Strokes video is an earnest representation of a retrograde form of visual rock performance that borders on self-parody. The New Order video is itself a parody of earnest representations of retrograde forms of visual rock performance. The New Order video is also a parody of the boy-band genre in general, even Velvet Underground-inspired boy bands like the Strokes. New Order, who of course are getting old now, places attractive, fashionable nobodies as their stand-ins and thereby confuse anyone who's never heard of New Order into thinking that they are some hot new youth band. Both songs are great though, so I'm not complaining, cynics be damned.

What if we don't want to take our shirts off and twirl them around like a helicopter?

Synopsis for "Last Nite": There is something incredibly disconcerting about this video and I wonder if it's intentional. There is no doubt that lead singer Julian Casablancas and his band are not physically engaged in this music, especially compared to the rocking New Order fake model stand-ins. Look at the way Casablancas throws his microphone stand onto the side of the stage. There's nothing spontaneous about that movement at all. What is he thinking about, staring at? Did Roman Coppola put that beer bottle there, and was Casablancas scheduled to go pick it up and drink it? Weird.

Synopsis for "Crystal": Basically the same thing except at the finale the masses rush in and beat the band up. I really wish something like this could happen in one of those southern hip-hop videos.

# Lyric Opera's *Tosca* leaves the opera-goers satisfied

BY ALEX PARK  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Opera buffs are in the business of constantly trying to recreate the past. Go to any performance and you will find determined patrons who are seeing that evening's opera for at least the 15th time. At a showing of *La Boheme* you might see elderly ladies who spend their retirement looking for a crooning young tenor to make their nooks and crannies tingle the way Giuseppe Di Stefano did 45 years ago. Perhaps at a *Rigoletto* you may see a middle-aged man hoping that the soprano of the evening will recreate the leonine shivers for which he has longed since he first heard Joan Sutherland sing "Gualtier Malde...caro nome." Alas, it is a sobering experience to watch these dogged loyalists solemnly leave the theater after the last act, their faces sullen and pensive, wondering when their memories will come alive again and be aborned on stage. Meanwhile, first-time opera-goers leave not understanding why everyone is so depressed.

Luckily, the Baltimore Opera Company's production of *Tosca* had everyone leaving the theater with the same positive feeling about the evening's performance. The company's successful new production was a surprise to all opera-goers. The resolute loyalists were able to relive their pasts while newcomers were astonished at the immediacy, excitement and beauty of this artistic medium that many consider elitist and comic in its stodginess.

Giovanna Casolla played *Tosca* in a manner that is reminiscent of a woman that many loyal fans continue to mourn: Maria Callas. Casolla's voice is a big one, much like that of Eva Marton, but with more subtlety and breath control. On the big emotional top notes, she had a metallic ping that was raw and stunning. While this could be tiring after a time, she balanced her big voice with control and dynamics where it was appropriate. But beyond the nitty-gritty of her voice, her characterization was riveting and dramatic in the way that Callas's indomitable was. Yes, Casolla was a little mature to be playing the gorgeous, flashy-eyed diva that *Tosca* is, but she was able to blend her voice with grand gestures, delicate acting and an immense presence in

such a way as to make the audience believe that she was *Tosca*. Her second act aria, "Vissi d'arte," is the stuff of magic, and made anyone who was dozing off sit raptly at attention. Somehow, she was able to convey a true sense of helplessness and despair that hung over the audience before they suddenly came to and clapped with all their might. In reality, only Callas could get away with such a deft piece of magic, but Casolla came very close indeed, and the curtain went up, hers is the largest ovation in the house.

With Casolla present to satisfy those looking to relive Maria Callas, the rest of the production could not stray too far from the traditional tried-and-true formula that has evolved for *Tosca*. However, the Baltimore Opera still managed to insert some small but pleasant novelties. The sets by

**Giovanna Casolla**  
played *Tosca* in a manner that is reminiscent of a woman that many loyal fans continue to mourn: Maria Callas.

Andrew Horn were handsome and provocative. They were not anything revolutionary as far as *Tosca*'s go, but they were some of the most beautiful and detailed things to be wheeled onto the stage of the Lyric Opera House. The lighting by Guy Simard served to heighten the feeling of quality and grandeur, producing such believable deceptions as moonlight sifting through windows and bright sun peeking through the dome of a cathedral. The immensity of size and breadth of space conveyed by the sets was particularly laudable considering the Lyric's rather difficult stage dimensions: wide and shallow like a vaudeville house.

The American baritone Mark Delavan played a most devious and oily Scarpia, the Chief of Police. This character, the sadistic and cruel antagonist who believes that his purpose in life is to "delight in as much of God's creation as I can," has no morals other than those that support his aims. His presence is a terrible pallor of doom over the whole opera. His every entrance and mention is echoed or prefaced by the orchestra with the same five haunting chords that are the opening

notes of the opera. The entrance of Scarpia is one of the most fantastic scenes in all of opera. Only Puccini can create a sense of fun and giddiness as altar boys prance about the stage and then put the fear of God into an entire audience as Scarpia enters, in three bars of music. It is one of the quickest and most breathtaking of operatic entrances, and Delavan did it with awesome panache, aided by some intense and punchy conducting from Andrea Licatta. In fact, the entrance of Scarpia in this production probably surpassed the entrance from the renowned and fairy-dusted Franco Zeffirelli production of *Tosca* for the Metropolitan Opera. Most likely this was due to the more intimate stage dimensions at the Lyric, where Mark Delavan's presence was more striking. He is a big man — this author's waist is probably as big as one of his thighs — who dominated the scene; such an entrance would probably be difficult to stage at the Met where the enormity of the stage eclipses even such a giant as Delavan. To go with his impressive presence, this Scarpia had a coarse, dark voice with cannon-like delivery in the low range but impressive control and legato in the higher tessitura.

The leading man of the evening, Maurizio Graziani, playing Cavaradossi, *Tosca*'s lover, was probably the only disappointment of the evening. Mr. Graziani's tone was remarkably steady and well-schooled in the high tessitura but his phrasing was stilted and dry. In the high notes, he seemed to become constricted and strained, losing considerable volume and becoming indecipherable from the orchestra. Singing alongside Casolla's big voice did not help matters. Neither did his pallid acting, which made one think that a nervous understudy was thrust into the part, as he constantly threw darting looks at the conductor to make sure he was in rhythm.

Maestro Andrea Licata was fully devoted to the evening, drawing out deep and thundering sound from the pit with passionately swelling strings and fat, luxurious brass. At times, Licata was so involved that he became an instrument himself, delivering conspicuous grunts and heaves that Puccini never wrote into the score.

But pushing the minor caveats aside, the Baltimore Opera's new production of *Tosca* was wonderfully satisfying to both the experienced opera-goer looking to relive the past and novices seeking to see what the hype is all about. It was essentially a by-the-book production intended to satisfy the company's primarily older clientele, but there are enough surprises and gems to make it a worthwhile evening for anyone. Casolla and Graziani traded off with Laura Niculescu and Frank Poretta as *Tosca* and Cavaradossi though the production's run, which ended on Nov. 18.

The next production coming to the Lyric Opera House is Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute), showing Dec. 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16.

For more information or tickets, call the Lyric Box Office. Student rush prices run from \$20-33 with ID. Typical prices without the student rush discount can run anywhere from \$99-\$150 or more.

# Dave Holland quintet's third release is flawed but enjoyable

Dave Holland Quintet. *Not for Nothin'*. ECM Records 1758, 2001.

BY MATTHEW SEKERKE  
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

*Not for Nothin'* is the long-awaited third release from Dave Holland's quintet of Chris Potter (saxophones), Robin Eubanks (trombone), Steve Nelson (vibes, marimba), Billy Kilson (drums) and Holland himself on bass. Following the success of their previous two albums on the ECM label (*Points of View*, ECM 1663 and *Prime Directive*, ECM 1698), this new album

At 53, [Holland is] as insatiable as ever, and he has a clear agenda.

retains the formula that has become the group's signature: funky grooves in odd meters combined with energetic soloing and a relaxed approach to harmony.

Unfortunately, however, this third album fails to harness the appeal of its two predecessors. The

fanfare-ish opening track, "Global Citizen", is a case in point. Penned by trombonist Eubanks, it begins in a 6+5 meter which metamorphoses into a catchy 4+6+5+4 following a show-stopping Holland bass solo. But on both sides of the transition are simple diatonic melodies which lead nowhere. While intelligence and ability are evident in the improvisation of all members, the album lacks enduring themes which would earn its constituent charts a place in the gigging musician's fake book, or even send a listener away humming. (Perhaps the most inexcusable cut in this respect is Holland's own "Shiftin' Sands", a bizarre tango in 9/4.)

This is not to say that there isn't a lot to enjoy on this album. One cannot help but be astonished at the ease with which Billy Kilson floats from one abstruse meter to the next, a source of boundless energy for the quintet. Potter's soloing lights up this release much like his contributions to Steely Dan's Grammy-winning *Two Against Nature*. Eubanks explores and pushes back the outer boundaries of trombone technique, and Steve Nelson is ever flexible as the ensemble's only chordal instrument, masterfully juxtaposing the horizontal with the vertical.

And what about Holland? At 53, he's as insatiable as ever, and he has a clear agenda. As he said in a previous interview, "For me, rhythm is one of the primary things that communicates with people. Even if you can't hear a pitch, you can feel a rhythm, movement and dance — everything that is fundamental to the human condition." Certainly, his latest effort offers a riveting vision of the fundamental.

In a way, his music resembles a fractal: if you take a simple operation, isolate it, put it through a series of iterations and focus in ever closer, you can see just how complex and beautiful the fundamental can be.

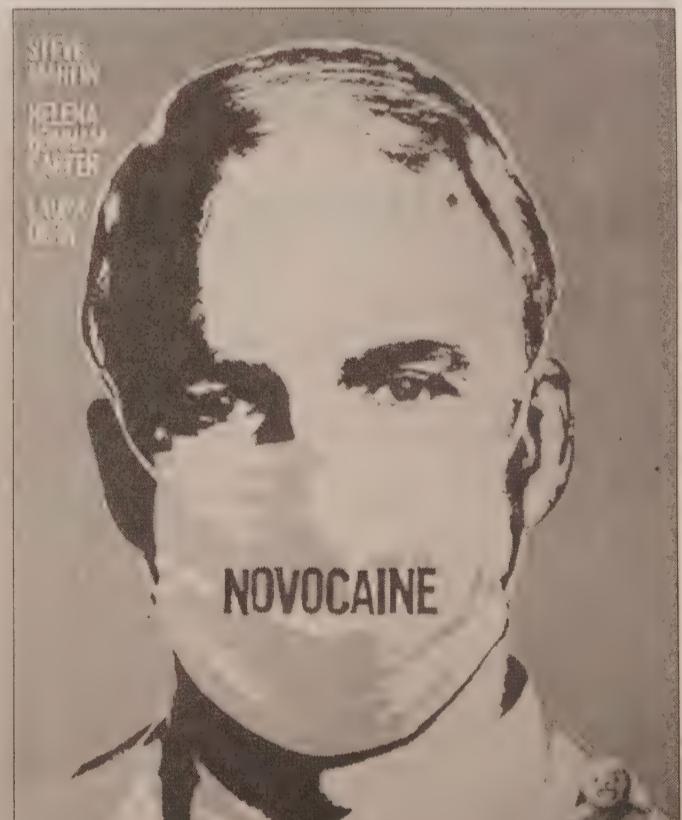
The author can be contacted at sekerke@jhu.edu.



## TOP 10 MOVIES (AS OF NOV. 26)

RATINGS ACCORDING TO [HTTP://WWW.HOLLYWOOD.COM](http://WWW.HOLLYWOOD.COM)

1) <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i> (Warner Bros.)	13) <i>The Wash</i> (Lions Gate)	17) <i>Bandits</i> (MGM)
14) <i>13 Ghosts</i> (Warner Bros.)	18) <i>Serendipity</i> (Miramax)	
2) <i>Monsters, Inc.</i> (Buena Vista)	15) <i>The Man Who Wasn't There</i> (USA Films)	19) <i>Training Day</i> (Warner Bros.)
3) <i>Spy Game</i> (Universal)	16) <i>Sidewalks of New York</i>	20) <i>Novocaine</i> (Artisan)
4) <i>Black Knight</i> (20th Century Fox)		
5) <i>Shallow Hal</i> (20th Century Fox)		
6) <i>Out Cold</i> (Buena Vista)		
7) <i>Domestic Disturbance</i> (Paramount)		
8) <i>Heist</i> (Warner Bros.)		
9) <i>Life as a House</i> (New Line)		
10) <i>The One</i> (Sony)		
11) <i>Amelie</i> (Miramax)		
12) <i>K-Pax</i> (Universal)		



### \* Advertisement\*

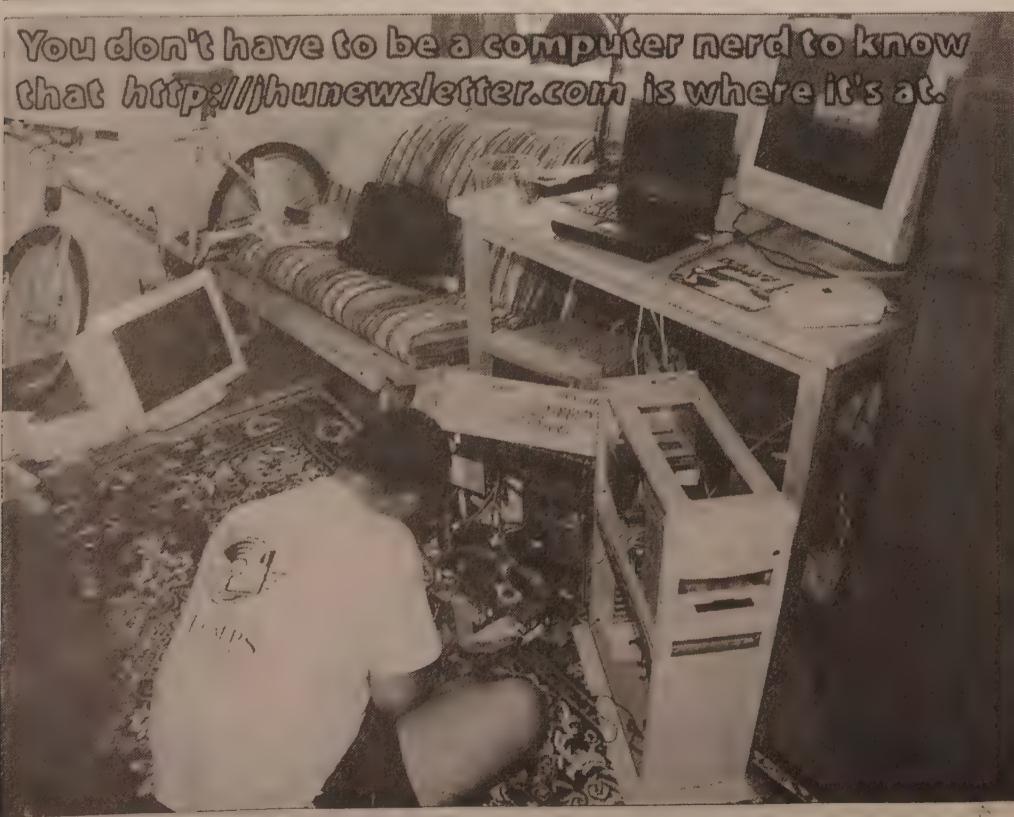
#### Wanted! Spring Breakers!

Sun Coast Vacations wants to send you on Spring Break to Cancun, the Bahamas, Jamaica, or Mazatlan FOR FREE!

To find out how, call 1-888-777-4642 or e-mail [sales@suncastvacations.com](mailto:sales@suncastvacations.com)

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Indulge in FREE Travel, Drinks, Food, and Parties with the Best DJ's and celebrities in Cancun, Jamaica, Mazatlan, and the Bahamas. Go to [StudentCity.com](http://StudentCity.com),



# Witness Theater stages the annual One-Acts, hosts Masquerade Ball

Looking to attend a theater event but don't want or don't have a way to leave campus?

Witness Theater is presenting an Evening of One-Acts at the Arellano Theatre, Nov. 30 to Dec. 2. Featured performances will include "Cafe" by Loren Dunn and "Over the Edge" by Martin Marks. Showtime is 7 p.m. and tickets are \$2.

Witness will also be hosting a Masquerade Ball on Dec. 1 at 9:30 p.m. in Arellano. Admission is \$1 or free with a program from the show. Costumes are optional but preferred. For more information about either event, e-mail [jijohnson@jhu.edu](mailto:jijohnson@jhu.edu).

This report was compiled by staff writer Caroline M. Saffer.



(From left) Marshall Ross, Ryan Hopson and Lisa Caitlin Perri in "Edge."

LIZ STEINBERG/NEWS-LETTER

# CARTOONS, ETC.

## your Horoscope

### ARIES: (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

No amount of cramming in D-Level will save you now. You'd better start looking for a med school in a non-extradition country.

### TAURUS: (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Matter can be converted into energy; any high school junior can tell you that. Unfortunately, science still can't turn Terrace Powerade into vodka.

### GEMINI: (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Where in the world is Carmen Sandiego? The stars give no hint, but she's probably maxed out all of your credit cards by now.

### CANCER: (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

You like it kinky? In your future, some innocent role playing will land you in the hospital and your significant other on Fox.

### LEO: (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Went to the bathroom in a mad dash only to find all the stalls taken? Mercury is lined up with Saturn now, so it won't happen again.

### VIRGO: (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

For all the hard work you put into your diorama on Vichy France, your work will not be rewarded since you were specifically asked for a paper.



### LIBRA: (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)

Thanksgiving was a success for you, just as the stars predicted. The only thing that would have made it better is if you didn't make your turkey from tofu, you hippie.

### SCORPIO: (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)

Returning to an argument long since forgotten, for some reason, the Tax Reform Act of 1986 was particularly bad for Scorpios. You should have voted for Mondale.

### SAGITTARIUS: (NOVEMBER 22 - DEC. 21)

To all those schoolyard bullies who tormented you, tell them although they are football stars, you learned how to synthesize LSD in the lab, which is much cooler.

### CAPRICORN: (DEC. 22 - JANUARY 19)

Baltimore is not a safe place for Capricorns during the upcoming week. Then again, Charm City isn't safe for anyone who doesn't have Mace and/or a black belt.

### AQUARIUS: (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)

Always take out the trash before you leave on a vacation. Otherwise, when you return, you'll be treated to the home version of "Locate That Smell."

### PISCES: (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)

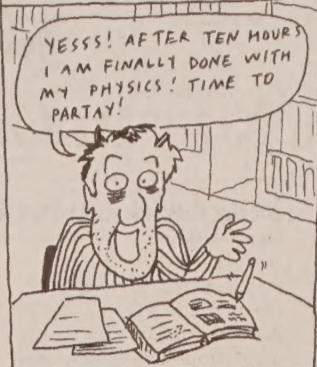
Sucks to be a Pisces? Not this week. On Sunday, you will finally understand Woody Allen's films, which will open your mind to a whole new neurotic world.



## THE HOP

by Mahnu Davar

SATURDAY NIGHT... DEEP WITHIN THE BOWELS OF THE M.S.E. LIBRARY...

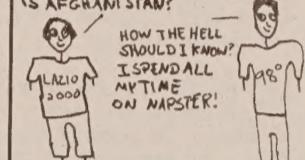


## BEHIND THE INK

by Charles Donefer

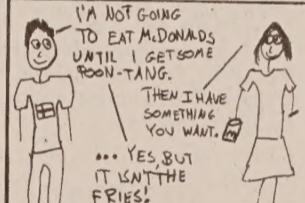
THIS WEEK, BEHIND THE INK TAKES A LOOK BACK TO THE HALCYON DAYS OF YORE, WHEN THINGS WERE DIFFERENT.

HEY MAN, WHERE IS AFGHANISTAN?



THAT'S RIGHT, TO THE YEAR 2000.

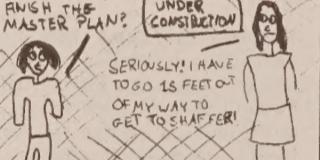
CHRIS, OUR OTHER CHIEF, WAS MORE OF THE SELF-IMPROVEMENT TYPE.



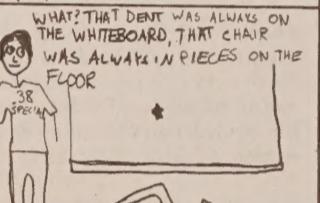
... YES, BUT IT ISN'T THE FRIES!

AH, YES. BACK WHEN WE HAD A DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND EVERYONE AT HOPKINS COMPLAINED ABOUT THE SAME THING.

WHEN WILL THEY FINISH THE MASTER PLAN?

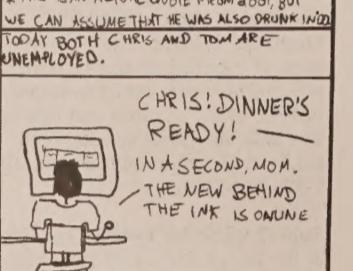
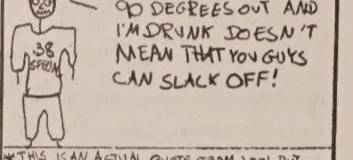


SERIOUSLY! I HAVE TO GO 10 FEET OUT OF MY WAY TO GET TO SHAFFERT!



IN THOSE DAYS, WE HAD DIFFERENT CHIEFS, WHO RAN THINGS THEIR OWN WAY.

JUST BECAUSE IT'S 90 DEGREES OUT AND I'M DRUNK DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU GUYS CAN SLACK OFF!



<http://behindtheink.tripod.com>

## FILLER

by Eric Ha

THE LIFE OF A HOPKINS STUDENT  
UNOFFICIAL

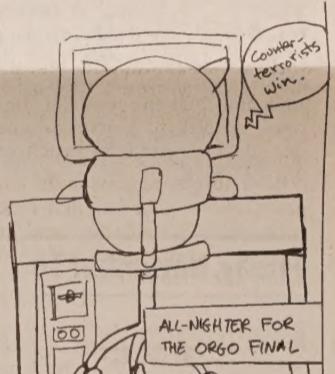
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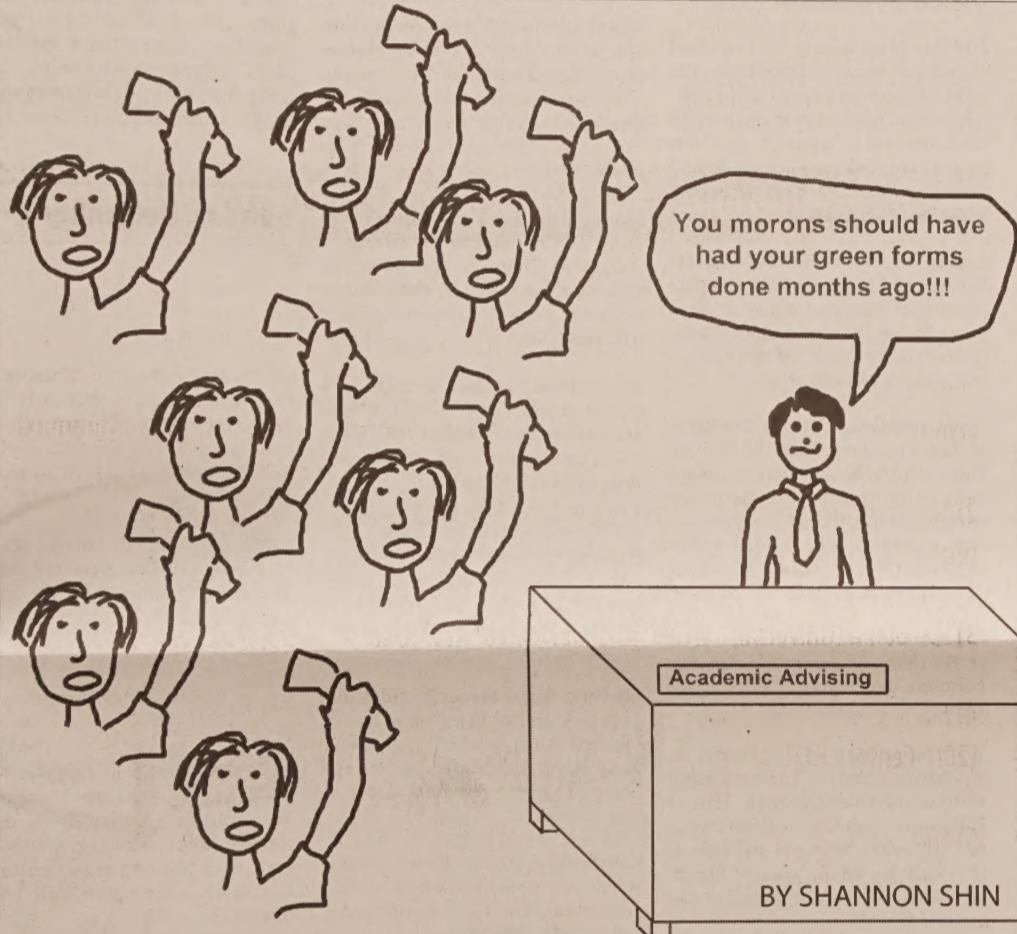
4:00 PM REVIEW SESSION

Z Z Z

Pikachu, I choose you!



ALL-NIGHTER FOR THE ORGO FINAL



## JANIZARY 7

by Eric Ha

THE TOWN OF SHEBA  
(OR RATHER WHAT IS LEFT OF IT).



## Thursday, November 29

## ON CAMPUS

8:00 a.m. **Blood Drive** in the Glass Pavilion. Help save a life! For more information, call 410-516-0138, e-mail [caterina@jhu.edu](mailto:caterina@jhu.edu) or visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~outreach/blooddrive>.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **"Cobot Design and Control"** will be presented by J. Edward Colgate of Northwestern University in Maryland Hall, room 110. For more information, call 410-516-7266.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **"Investigating the Structure of High Dimensional Pattern Recognition Problems"** will be presented by Carey Priebe in Arellano Theater.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **"Analysis of Large Coactivator Complexes that Activate and Repress Transcription in Yeast"** will be presented by Fred Winston of Harvard Medical School in Mudd Hall, room 100.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **"The Future of Computing"** will be presented in Schafer Auditorium, Bloomberg 272.

## OFF CAMPUS

7:30 p.m. **Gary Vikan** Talks at the Creative Alliance. A slide lecture on the deification of Elvis Presley. For more information, call 410-276-1651.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

**SuperPops Series**, Debbie Reynolds at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Award-winning stage and screen actress, singer and dancer, Debbie Reynolds, graces the Meyerhoff stage, performing songs like "Singin' in the Rain" and "Crazy." For more information, call 410-783-8100.

**Victorian Christmas at History House** in Cumberland, Maryland. Victorian home decorated for the holidays; musical entertainment, adult and children's teas, Christmas trees, candlelight tours; costumed docents. For more information, call 301-777-8678.

## Friday, November 30

## ON CAMPUS

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. **PMB/Jenkins Student Seminar Committee** in Jenkins Hall, room 102.

7:00 p.m. **Video games on the big Shriver screen**. Only \$2 for 5 minutes of playtime! For more information, email [wonderflix@yahoo.com](mailto:wonderflix@yahoo.com) or visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jhufilm>.

7:00 p.m. - Witness Theter presents an Evening of One Acts in Arellano Theatre. For more information, e-mail [jljohnson@jhu.edu](mailto:jljohnson@jhu.edu).

9:15 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. **Coffee Grounds** at E-Level.

## OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour** at Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **New Light Leadership Coalition 2001** at the Baltimore Convention Center. College and Career Fair, upper level high school and college students presented information on potential career opportunities. For more information, call 1-888-392-4832.

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **New Happy Hour** at the Walters Art Museum. Salsa Night! Live Cuban band, salsa lessons and dancing, exotic drinks, Spanish tapas. Tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

7:30 p.m. **Panther Panchali** at the Walters Art Museum. Film depicting harsh poverty and childhood raptures with unsentimental compassion. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

8:00 p.m. **Peabody Renaissance**

Ensemble in Friedberg Hall of the Peabody Conservatory. Shakespeare's Music. For more information, call 410-659-8100.

8:00 p.m. **Kenny Rogers** at the Baltimore Arena. Christmas from the Hart, the Toy Shoppe.

8:30 p.m. **Susan Werner plus Erin McKeown** at The Rams Head Tavern in Annapolis, live and in concert. Tickets are \$15.00. For more information, call 410-268-4545.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

**Marvin, Oh Marvin** at Encore Theatre. A musical salute to Marvin Gaye. For more information, call 1-888-392-4832.

**SuperPops Series**, Debbie Reynolds at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Award-winning stage and screen actress, singer and dancer, Debbie Reynolds, graces the Meyerhoff stage, performing songs like "Singin' in the Rain" and "Crazy." For more information, call 410-783-8100.

**Maryland Christmas Show** at the Frederick Fairgrounds. Seven buildings and numerous big top tents. You will enjoy the works of 500 top artists and craftspeople, a special Holiday Foods Pavilion and entertainment. For more information, call 301-898-5466.

**Ebenezer** will show at Spotlights Theatre. The traditional Christmas Carol story with 18 new songs and two 45 minute acts! Perfect fare for the whole family! For more information, call 410-752-1225.

**Fell's Point Ghost Walk**. The first area ghost and lore walking tour. Pirates, ladies of the night, rioters and men and women from around the world have called Fell's Point home. Some have never left... For more information, call 410-675-6750.

**Victorian Christmas at History House** in Cumberland, Maryland. Victorian home decorated for the holidays; musical entertainment, adult and children's teas, Christmas trees, candlelight tours; costumed docents. For more information, call 301-777-8678.

**Holidays in the Tropics** at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Enjoy local performers singing songs of the season, warm up with hot chocolate and cookies, plus tour the Aquarium for only \$5 as part of our "Fridays After Five" program. For more information, call 410-576-3800.

**The Lighting of the Tin Can Tree** at The Can Company. The Can Company kicks off holiday festivities with Christmas carolers, seasonal fun and the lighting of its very own Tin Can Tree. Holiday specials at restaurants and shops. For more information, call 410-558-CanC.

**Baltimore Coin, Currency and Collectable Convention** at the Baltimore Convention Center. Appraisals, coins and supplies, fun and education activities and auction. For more information, call 301-424-1876.

**Kris Kringle Procession** from Everedy Square to Baker Park. Traditional German procession culminating with the arrival of Kris Kringle. For more information, call 1-800-999-3613.

**Audubon Holiday Fair** in Chevy Chase. Fine arts and crafts, 120 nationally known artisans, trees, greens. For more information, call 301-652-9188, x32.

**Antique Christmas Festival Preview Party and Sale** at the Southern Maryland Antique Center. Discounts on the perfect holiday gift, demonstrations on decorating with antiques and fresh evergreens, tea, breads and punch. For more information, call 410-257-1677.

**Berlin's Victorian Christmas** on Main Street in Berlin. Breakfast with Santa, horse and carriage rides, concerts, parade, house tour. For more information, call 410-641-4775.

**Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Show** at the SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox in Annapolis. With food and music, this is an event that everyone in the family will enjoy! For more information, call 410-573-2022.

## CALENDAR



## NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 5

## Saturday, December 1

## ON CAMPUS

5:00 p.m. **Gospel Choir Fall Concert** at the Interfaith Center. It's going to be a great night of music, dance and fellowship at the JHU Gospel Choir Concertentitle "Let Go and Let God." For more information, e-mail [jhugc@hotmail.com](mailto:jhugc@hotmail.com).

7:00 p.m. - Witness Theter presents an **Evening of One Acts** in Arellano Theatre. For more information, e-mail [jljohnson@jhu.edu](mailto:jljohnson@jhu.edu).

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **"Primary Colors"** will take place in Schafer Auditorium of the Bloomberg Center for Physics and Astronomy. For more information, call 410-516-7683.

9:30 p.m. Witness Theater presents a **Masquerade Ball** in Arellano Theatre. \$1 admission, free with program from show. Costumes optional, but preferred. For more information, e-mail [jljohnson@jhu.edu](mailto:jljohnson@jhu.edu).

## OFF CAMPUS

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Ship Shape Days** on the USS Constellation. Volunteer to help preserve one of America's great historical treasures. For more information, call 410-539-1797 or visit <http://www.constellation.org>.

9:00 a.m. **Team Diabetes Marathon Training Program** at the Sport, Speed and Strength Athletic Club. Train to walk or run a 5K, 10L, half or full marathon in honor or memory of someone with diabetes. For more information, call 1-800-676-4065.

9:00 a.m. **Breakfast with Santa** at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. A hot buffet breakfast as kids and adults wait to greet Santa with all of their wishes for the season. For more information, call 410-727-FISH.

10:00 a.m. **Saturday Family Lecture Series** at the Carrie Murray Nature Center. Lecture all about nature. For more information, call 410-396-0808.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour** at Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Holiday Heritage Festival** at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Explore holiday traditions of several different countries and cultures. For more information, call 410-727-4808, x111.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Holiday Memories** at the Maryland Historical Society. Experience the sights, sounds and scents of the season in an exploration of traditions, holiday party games and more. For more information, call 301-777-8678.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Country Christmas Saturdays** at Boordy Vineyards. Live music, hot Wassail, holiday cake, tours, tastings and plenty of gift-giving ideas make these spirited afternoons a seasonal delight. For more information, call 410-592-5015 or visit <http://www.boordy.com>.

5:00 p.m. **Festival of Lights** in Fell's Point. Featuring an old-fashioned town crier, holiday caroling and professor Horn's authentic punch and Judy puppet show. For more information, call 410-424-1876.

6:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. **The 8th Night of 100 ELVISes** at Lithuanian Hall. Ballroom hosts over 15 bands and 15 Elvis tribute artists! Jungle Room and Elvis Viva Las Vegas Lounge will offer Elvis nostalgia, movies, cuisine and more! Reserve your table now! For more information, call 410-652-9188, x32.

**Baltimore Coin, Currency and Collectable Convention** at the Baltimore Convention Center. Appraisals, coins and supplies, fun and education activities and auction. For more information, call 410-424-1876.

7:00 p.m. **Seldom Scene** at The Rams

**Contemporary Botanica** at the Steven Scott Gallery. For more information, call 410-752-6218.

**The Baltimore Colts: Almost Religion at the Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum**. An all new-exhibit focusing on the 25-year tradition of the Baltimore Colts. For more information, call 410-727-1539.

**Montgomery Holiday Parade** at the Downtown Silver Spring Urban District. Annual county-wide parade to kick-off the holiday season.

**Breakfast with Santa** on the Bay Lady and Lady Baltimore in the Inner Harbor. 2-hour cruise with breakfast buffet, Santa and lots of fun. For more information, call 410-727-3113.

**Christmas on the Beach** at the Boardwalk, North Beach. Tree decorating and lighting, meet Santa, caroling, Yule log, refreshments. For more information, call 301-855-6681.

**Olde Tyme Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony** at the Town Center in Easton. Victorian themes parade includes horses and carriages, floats, costumed characters, 2 tree-lighting ceremonies.

**Winter Lights** at Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg. A 3.5 mile drive through light festival that benefits charities, 200 displays, 50 are animated. For more information, call 301-258-6310.

**Olde Fashioned Christmas Celebration** at the Historic Sotterley Plantation. Experience old-fashioned Christmas decorations on site, refreshments, crafts and gifts for sale. For more information, call 1-800-681-0850.

**Family Holiday Hands-on Workshop** at Charles Carroll House of Annapolis. Children's colonial activities, Christmas craft projects, entertainment. For more information, call 410-269-1737.

**Taste of the Nutcracker** at Abigail's Dance Studio. A "Taste of the Nutcracker" as presented by Chesapeake Ballet Company. For more information, call 410-257-9618.

**AMC Holiday House Tour**. Tour homes decorated for the holiday, benefits AMC Cancer Research Center, boutique and refreshments at Liriodendron Mansion. For more information, call 410-893-8662.

**Historic Main Street Holiday Parade** on C and Main Streets in Laurel. Old-fashioned holiday parade down Main Street with Santa, caroling and children's party. For more information, call 301-725-7539.

**Candlelight House Tour**. Holiday splendor created in homes on this annual tour. For more information, call 1-800-999-3613.

**29th Annual Holiday Mart** at Centennial High School. Juried show; an

array of gift items, home decorations hand-crafted by approximately 139 artists. For more information, call 410-313-7275.

**Cecil County Christmas Parade**. Bands, floats, Santa! For more information, call 410-287-5801.

**Antique Christmas Festival** throughout Calvert County. Novel antiques, quilts, unique gifts, china, tools, glassware, books, other collectibles; complementary refreshments. For more information, call 410-257-3153.

**Greenberg's Great Train and Collectable Toy Show** at Maryland State Fairgrounds. Train layouts, free clinics by experts, test track, door prizes; marketplace: trains, accessories, scouts in uniform admitted free. For more information, call 410-795-7447.

**Dickens Christmas Weekend**. Shopkeepers in Victorian costume, carolers, entertainment and food all along Main Street, North East. For more information, call 410-287-2658.

**Merry Seussmas! Seussy Holidays!** at the Maryland Science Center. Celebrate Dr. Seuss with the Cat in the Hat at Seuss!, an exciting 3-dimensional exhibit at the Maryland Science Center. Enjoy entertainment, arts and crafts, book signings. For more information, call 410-685-2370.

**Lighted Boat Parade** at the Inner Harbor and Fells Point. More than 50 boats and pleasure crafts will parade from Baltimore's Inner Harbor to Fells Point decorated in holiday lights and finery. For more information, call 1-888-Baltimore.

## Sunday, December 2

## ON CAMPUS

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **"Solstice Solace"** will be held in Shriver Hall. \$9 general admission, \$7 senior citizens and students, Free for JHU students with id. For more information, call 410-516-6542.

7:00 p.m. - Witness Theter presents an **Evening of One Acts** in Arellano Theatre. For more information, e-mail [jljohnson@jhu.edu](mailto:jljohnson@jhu.edu).

## OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour at Carroll County Farm Museum** in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. **Bach by Popular Demand** at the First English Lutheran Church, featuring Bach's

Cantata. For more information, call 410-235-2356.

1:00 p.m. **Ravens Football** at PSINet Stadium vs. Indianapolis Colts. For more information, call 410-261-RAVE.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Holiday Vintage Parties** at Boordy Vineyards. Spend the afternoon in our cozy cellars enjoying a buffet that includes roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, hot Wassail and our award-winning wines. For more information, call 410-592-5015 or visit <http://www.boordy.com>.

3:30 p.m. **Pro Musica Rara** at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Featuring violon and cellists Allen Whear and Doug McNames and guest artist Virginia Brewer. For more information, call 410-385-5888.

7:00 p.m. **Joe Byrd Quintet** at The Rams Head Tavern in Annapolis live and in concert. Tickets are \$20.00. For more information, call 410-268-4545.

**The 29th Annual Mayor's Christmas Parade.** The parade has Santa Claus, a fly-over by the Air National Guard, Harley Davidson motorcycles, Marching Bands, Boumi Temple performers, floats and lots of fun! For more information, call 410-450-2041 or visit <http://www.mayorschristmasparade.com>.

**Bel Air Christmas Parade** on Main Street in Bel Air. Floats, marching bands and Santa. Parade begins on Main Street and Churchville Road.

**Breakfast with Santa** at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. A hot buffet breakfast as kids and adults wait to greet Santa with all of their wishes for the season. For more information, call 410-727-FISH or visit <http://www.aqua.org>.

**Audubon Holiday Fair** in Chevy Chase. Fine arts and crafts, 120 nationally known artisans, trees, greens. For more information, call 301-652-9188, x32.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

**SuperPops Series, Debbie Reynolds** at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Award-winning stage and screen actress, singer and dancer, Debbie Reynolds, graces the Meyerhoff stage, performing songs like "Singin' in the Rain" and "Crazy". For more information, call 410-783-8100.

**Baltimore Coin, Currency and Collectible Convention** at the Baltimore Convention Center. Appraisals, coins and supplies, fun and education activities and auction. For more information, call 301-424-1876.

**Victorian Christmas** at History House in Cumberland, Maryland. Victorian home decorated for the holidays; musical entertainment, adult and children's teas, Christmas trees, candlelight tours; costumed docents. For more information, call 301-777-8678.

**Maryland Christmas Show** at the Frederick Fairgrounds. Seven buildings and big top tents. You will enjoy the works of 500 top artists and craftspeople, a special Holiday Foods Pavilion and entertainment. For more information, call 301-898-5466.

**Ebenezer** will show at Spotlights Theatre. The traditional Christmas Carol story with 18 new songs and two 45 minute acts! Perfect fare for the whole family! For more information, call 410-752-1225.

**Marvin, Oh Marvin** at Encore Theatre. A musical salute to Marvin Gaye. For more information, call 1-888-392-4832.

## Monday, December 3

### ON CAMPUS

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. "Dam Removal: Economic, Ecologic and Policy Issues" will be presented by John Boland in the Wyman Park Building in room 526.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Discussion Group** for Mol. Biophysics I will be held in Jenkins Hall, room 102.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. "Structural Basis of K+ Channel Gating" will be presented by Dr. Eduardo Perozo of the University of Virginia in Jenkins Hall, room 109.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. "A Theorist's View of the General Circulation of the Ocean" will be presented by Geoff Valis of Princeton University in Olin Hall, room 305.

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. "From Integrable Systems to Gromov - Written Invariants" will be presented by B. Dubrovin in Krieger Hall, room 302.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. **Discussion Group** for Mol. Biophysics I in Jenkins Hall, room 102.

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. "PreHealth: AED Series: New Concepts for the Application of Medical Education-Medicine and International Health" will be presented by Ron Macgarick in the Mattin Hall Arts Center, Room 160. For more information, call 410-516-4140.

### OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Tails 'N' Trails** at Gwynn Falls Trail. A program for children aged 3-5 years. For more information, call 410-396-0440.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour** at Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

4:00 p.m. **Lecture at the Maryland Institute of Art**. A lecture with James Victore. For more information, call 410-225-2300.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **Bubble Blast** at Gertrude's in the BMA. Taste a sampling of champagnes and sparkling wines from all over the world. For more information, call 410-889-3399.

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **Baltimore County Tree Lighting Ceremony** at Towson Courthouse Plaza. Annual holiday house tour, rooms decorated by local community groups, refreshments served. For more information, call 410-744-3034.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

**Victorian Christmas** at History House in Cumberland, Maryland. Victorian home decorated for the holidays; musical entertainment, adult and children's teas, Christmas trees, candlelight tours; costumed docents. For more information, call 301-777-8678.

**Ebenezer** will show at Spotlights Theatre. The traditional Christmas Carol story with 18 new songs and two 45 minute acts! Perfect fare for the whole family! For more information, call 410-752-1225.

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## EXPOSURE

BY RENATO CARFAGNO



## Tuesday, December 4

### ON CAMPUS

3:00 p.m. The Student Labor Action Committee will report on its meeting with the Hopkins Administration in the Mattin Center Offit Building, Room 160. All are invited.

4:00 p.m. **Rush Hour 2** will be showing in Shriver Hall auditorium. The cost is \$3. For more information, call 410-516-8666.

### OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour** at Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **Festive Flavors and Art** at Federal Hill. Welcome Santa and his carolers as they come to Cross Street Market and enjoy the art studios, restaurants and bars found in this festive neighborhood. For more information, call 410-528-8888.

1000 Words - **A Figure of Speech** at Paper Rock Scissors. Two artists, Trudy Babchak and Mark Clark, render the symbol and spirit of the human figure to convey a much more esoteric message about the human place within the universe. Runs until January 14, 2001. For more information, call 410-235-4420 or visit <http://www.paperrockscissors.com>.

**A Scottish Christmas** at Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Celebrate the holiday season with wassail tunes and traditional Celtic melodies as fiddler Bonnie Rideout and Fiery Scottish dancers and musicians transport you to the highlands. For more information, call 410-783-8000.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

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## Wednesday, December 5

### ON CAMPUS

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. "K3 Surfaces, Gerbes and T-Duality" will be presented by Tony Panter of the University of Pennsylvania in Krieger Hall, room 302.

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. "Using Genetics to Make Better People: Preventing Disease and Enhancing Normal Function" will be presented by Dan Brock of Brown University in Gilman Hall, room 348. For more information, call 410-516-7524.

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. "Rush Hour 2" will be showing in Shriver Hall auditorium. The cost is \$3. For more information, call 410-516-8666.

### OFF CAMPUS

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Holiday Tour** at Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Holiday theme decorations; Santa, wagon rides on weekends, food, poinsettia sales and more. For more information, call 1-800-654-4645.

7:00 p.m. **Keller Williams** at The Rams Head Tavern in Annapolis live and in concert. Tickets are \$17.50. For more information, call 410-268-4545.

**Madrigals and Carols** at Historic St. Mary's City. Beautiful Christmas concert at the Old State House. For more information, call 1-800-762-1634.

**Drum Point Lighthouse Seasonal Tours** at Calvert Marine Museum. Visit the turn-of-the-century at this 1883 screwpile cottage lighthouse decorated for the holidays. For more information, call 410-326-2042.

**The Music Man** at the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre. The endearing story of traveling salesman, Harold Hill, and his visit to a small Iowa town in 1912 where he meets and falls in love with the willful, spinster librarian, Maria. For more information, call 1-800-343-3103.

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### Campus Notes

Would you like to give tours of campus to prospective students and their families? The Johns Hopkins Blue Key Society is now accepting applications for new tour guides. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are invited to apply. You can pick up applications in the Admissions Office lobby at Garland Hall. If you have any questions, e-mail the Blue Key account at [bluekey@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu](mailto:bluekey@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu) or contact Jonathan Gerel, Blue Key Advisor at [admaj@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu](mailto:admaj@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu) or Stephen Kayiaros, Membership Chair at [zorba@jhu.edu](mailto:zorba@jhu.edu).

Sexual assault is a difficult topic to discuss, especially if it happened to you, but it does occur and it does need to be talked about so you can move on with your life. Whether it's something that happened a while ago or more recently, we invite you to join us in an ongoing group discussion to help make sense of what happened and feel strong again. If you are interested or want more information, call Barbara Baum, Ph.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

Have family issues followed you here to college? Is someone at home ill, pressuring you too much, not calling enough, too much? The counseling center invites you to join a discussion group about handling family relationships as an undergraduate or graduate student. Topics are only limited by the number of people who come. If interested, call Larry David, Ph.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

The Counseling Center will be holding a weekly meeting for international students, undergraduate and graduate, to come and discuss shared concerns about adjusting to living in the U.S., Baltimore and Johns Hopkins. What is it like to be away from home, what are the challenges and joys of life and study in another country? We are open to any concerns that you bring to the group. If interested, call Anita Sharma, Psy.D. or Michele Goldstein, M.A. at the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278.

**Campus Notes** are provided free of charge as a service to JHU-affiliated campus groups. Please submit a brief paragraph to us by Monday night at 5:00 p.m. by electronic mail ([News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu)) or by dropping off a copy at our offices at the corner of Art Museum and Charles S.

meeting new people? Do you avoid places or situations where you might have to say something in public? Do you worry about acting a certain way or saying the "right thing" to someone you don't know? You're not alone! The Counseling Center is offering a group for students interested in being more confident in social situations. We're seeking students interested in being more comfortable making friends, meeting a potential romantic partner, talking in class or just being in a crowd. The group will emphasize self-confidence, insight and skills building in a low pressure, supportive and safe environment. Call the Counseling Center at 410-516-8278 and ask to speak with Daniel Zimet, M.S., for more information.

**Dissertation Support Group** - Meet with a group of fellow students grappling with the same issues you are. Get some suggestions, some encouragement, some gentle pressure to keep at it and a lot of support. The group will meet Tuesdays 12:30-2:00 p.m. For additional information, contact Barbara Baur, Ph.D., or Daniel Zimet, M.S., at 410-516-8278.

The NASA Summer Academy 2002 applications for Goddard Space Flight Center and Ames Research Center are now available online at <http://www.nasa-academy.nasa.gov>. The NASA Academy is a unique ten-week summer institute of higher learning. The goal of the Academy is to help guide future leaders of the U.S. Aeronautics and Space Program by giving undergraduate and graduate student participants a glimpse of how the whole system works. Through a summer internship program, exceptional students from around the country are shown how the success of the program results from the interaction of government, academia, and the private sector. At Goddard, students are exposed to scientific investigation of Earth and Space, the development and operation of space systems and the advancement of essential technologies. At Ames, students are exposed to the study of life's origin, evolution, distribution in the universe and destiny, from the protection of our planet to the evolution of terrestrial life into space. Pre-screening of candidates is made by the Space Grant Consortium in each state. Final selection of Academy summer Research Associates is made by a panel of scientists, engineers, Space Grant representatives complemented by university faculty members and a select group of aerospace experts. If you have any questions regarding either Academy, please e-mail ([anne@pha.jhu.edu](mailto:anne@pha.jhu.edu)) or stop by the Maryland Space Grant Consortium Office at 203 Bloomberg Center.

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